

ISSUE #26

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# TREK

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



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### Trek Magazine caption competition

Send your witty captions for this photo (no more than three attempts per person) to Vanessa Clarke at [vanessa.clarke@ubc.ca](mailto:vanessa.clarke@ubc.ca), or to the mailing address on the right, by May 31. The winner will be chosen by the Alumni Affairs communications team. The prize will be personal glory and a brand new travel mug (in which to contain your excitement). We'll print the winning caption, details about the photo, and a new challenge in the summer issue. (Photo Courtesy UBC Library Archives)



# TREK 26

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# CiTR THE BLUE BRIGADE *and the* RISE OF THE VOLUNTEERS

If you tune your radio to 101.9 in the Lower Mainland (or go to [www.citr.ca](http://www.citr.ca)), you will be listening to one of the best college radio stations in North America. You'll hear things you've never heard before (some of which you may never want to hear again), talk that ranges from brilliant to goofy, and a playlist of indie, alt and you-name-it music that will, if you'll forgive an old-school idiom, blow your mind. You'll also hear great DJs who range from mellow to hysterical and from academic to hilarious. It's the most entertaining radio you're likely to hear anywhere, and it sounds like the heart and soul of UBC.

Since CiTR first hit the airwaves in 1974, every one of the hosts and DJs have been volunteers. Some have been on air for 25 years. Arguably the most famous among them, Nardwuar the Human Serviette, has been broadcasting at 3:30 every Friday afternoon since 1987.

CiTR is a great example of people doing things they love for free, and making the world a better place in the process. (Visit [www.citr.ca](http://www.citr.ca) for more info and some history.)

We saw another great example of that during the Vancouver Olympics and Paralympics. I know many people (me included) poo-pooed the games when Vancouver won the bid, but the way they played out warmed all but the hardest of hearts. IOC heavy-handedness, gazillions of dollars in taxpayer expense and predictions of disaster all melted away with a few bars of "Oh, Canada," some spectacular athletic performances and the odd, almost tearful feeling of pride we felt.

None of it would have been possible without the help of the Blue Brigade, 20,000 men and women dressed in blue who took tickets, yelled directions over loudspeakers, groomed snow, drove athletes around,

wiped water droplets off slalom gates so the next racer wouldn't get a face-full of wet as he or she screamed past, and the hundreds of other jobs, big and small, that had to be done for things to go right. Impressive, unbelievable and eye-opening.

UBC also has a cadre of volunteers, without which the university would grind to a halt. The Board of Governors might be the most visible and, ultimately, the most powerful volunteer group on campus (they approve budgets, after all), but it's just the top tier. The Botanical Garden would still be a stunning place if the FOGS (Friends of the Garden) didn't exist, but it would be inaccessible to you and me without them. Volunteers at the MOA dedicate their time and knowledge to teaching programs and the Museum Shop, and volunteer mentors work with most of our faculties to help students with the sometimes difficult transition from life at the university to life in the job world. And elsewhere on campus, volunteers work in too many ways to name to make life better for our students.

Here at the Alumni Association we have an active Board of Directors that strikes volunteer committees (from Communications and Awards to Advocacy and Finance) to help us develop and deliver programs and services for our alumni all over the world.

Over the coming year, the Alumni Association will introduce a new program designed to coordinate and generate volunteer opportunities for alumni to use their time and talent in meaningful ways at their alma mater, and harness the social capital of 252,000 UBC graduates.

In the meantime, tune in to CiTR for a taste of what UBC is like today. And remember: you're listening to the voice of volunteers.

Chris Petty, *MFA'86, Editor in Chief*

# TAKE NOTE

Take Note is edited from material that appears in other campus communications, including *UBC Reports*. We thank Public Affairs for allowing us to use their material.



Paul Hewitt is researching the role of perfectionism and suicide.

## Perfect Misery

● Perfectionism doesn't sound like a particularly negative human trait. In fact it's become a cliché for job interviewees, when pressed, to name perfectionism as one of their faults in a bid to downplay their weaknesses or give them a positive spin. Psychology professor Paul Hewitt, however, takes perfectionism very seriously. "Most people don't understand the toxicity of perfectionism," he says. "Perfectionists put enormous pressure on themselves, making their lives far from perfect."

For many years Hewitt has researched the connections between perfectionism and poor social relationships, under-achievement, ill-health, personality disorders and depression. With research partner Gordon Flett of York University, he is currently researching the role of perfectionism in suicide, specifically, the need to appear perfect to others (perfectionistic self-presentation). One area of study focuses on young people, a demographic with rising rates of suicide. "The perfectionism and suicide

connection among teens is especially relevant because of adolescents' inherent self-consciousness and concerns about social relationships," he says.

Hewitt and Flett are testing a model they developed linking social disconnection with perfectionism and suicidal thoughts. A recent study involved a group of young people, aged eight to twenty, who receive outpatient psychiatric counselling at BC Children's Hospital. It yielded information on their perfectionism, experience of bullying, sense of social hopelessness, and their thought of and attempts at suicide.

Individuals with perfectionism often crave acceptance from others and fear rejection. They are typically self-critical (yet sensitive to the criticism of others), have a tendency to retreat from the world, and can experience anger, depression and rigidity of thought. They can procrastinate or unconsciously hinder themselves to prevent facing the possibility that their best may not be perfect. To others they may appear

hostile. It's a sad irony (known as a neurotic paradox in the world of psychology) that the thing most perfectionists crave – acceptance – is made more elusive by their behaviour. In the case of perfectionist children, the way they are perceived can even make them the target of bullies.

"We urgently need to know more about the mechanisms of perfectionism, how it starts, how it develops," says Hewitt. "If we are to provide better interventions and targeted treatments, we don't need more evidence that perfectionism is a problem, we need to know why it's a problem."

Hewitt is a clinical psychologist who has worked with people from all walks of life and has seen the destruction caused by perfectionism. "I have worked with extreme perfectionists for many years and I am still surprised by the depth of their pain and the level of their desire to die," he says. "Perfectionists try to be the perfect patient. Our goal is to help them see and accept who they are under the perfect facade."

**Marijuana and Alzheimer’s: Helpful or Harmful?**

● The benefits of marijuana in tempering or reversing the effects of Alzheimer’s disease have been challenged in a new study by researchers at UBC and Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute.

The findings, published in the journal *Current Alzheimer Research*, could lower expectations about the benefits of medical marijuana in combating various cognitive diseases and help redirect future research to more promising therapies.

Previous studies using animal models showed that HU210, a synthetic form of the compounds found in marijuana, reduced the toxicity of plaques and promoted the growth of new neurons. Those studies used rats carrying amyloid protein, the toxin that forms plaques in the brains of Alzheimer’s victims.

The new study, led by Dr. Weihong Song, Canada Research Chair in Alzheimer’s Disease and a professor of psychiatry in the UBC Faculty of Medicine, was the first to test those findings using mice carrying human genetic mutations that cause Alzheimer’s disease, widely considered to be a more accurate model for the disease in humans.

“As scientists, we begin every study hoping to be able to confirm beneficial effects of potential therapies, and we hoped to confirm this for the use of medical marijuana in treating Alzheimer’s disease,” says Song, a member of the Brain Research Centre at UBC and VCH Research Institute and Director of Townsend Family Laboratories at UBC. “But we didn’t see any

benefit at all. Instead, our study pointed to some detrimental effects.”

Over a period of several weeks, some of the Alzheimer’s-afflicted mice were given varying doses of HU210 – also known as cannabinoids – which is 100 to 800 times more potent than the marijuana compounds. Their memory was then tested. The mice treated with HU210 did no better than untreated mice, with those given low doses of HU210 performing the worst. The researchers also found that HU210-treated mice had just as much plaque formation and the same density of neurons as the control group. The group given higher doses actually had fewer brain cells.

“Our study shows that HU210 has no biological or behavioural effect on the established Alzheimer’s disease model,” says Song, the Jack Brown and Family Professor and Chair in Alzheimer’s Disease. “More studies should be done before we place much hope in marijuana’s benefits for Alzheimer’s patients.”

**Can Money Buy Happiness?**

● The idea that money can’t buy happiness has, to some degree, been upheld by scientific evidence. Three studies involving UBC researchers would suggest that money isn’t the strongest factor and might even be detrimental to the pursuit of happiness.

Psychology professor Elizabeth Dunn co-conducted a study with international colleagues designed to assess how wealth affects people’s ability to enjoy life’s small pleasures. “While wealth opens doors to great experiences, it appears to undercut people’s ability to savour,”

she says, summing up the study’s conclusions. The study subjects – 350 working adults – answered questions designed to assess their ability to savour life in six different situations, including a romantic weekend away and completing an important task. They were also asked about their level of happiness, current wealth, and desire for future wealth. The questionnaire included an image of money, to prime the subjects’ thoughts while answering the questions. (A control group’s questionnaire, also contained the image, but it was indecipherably blurred.) Another experiment involved giving subjects a piece of chocolate to eat and leading them to believe it was for a taste test. They answered a questionnaire while researchers timed how long they took to savour the chocolate. The test subjects were again exposed to an image of money. Those exposed to the image took less time to eat the chocolate. This study’s co-researchers were Dino Petrides of University College London, England; Moira Mikolajczak of the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium; and visiting PhD student Jordi Quoidbach from the University of Liege, also in Belgium.

A second UBC study, in conjunction with Harvard Business School, demonstrates that people overestimate the effect of income level on happiness. Subjects were asked to estimate their own and others’ happiness at 10 income levels from \$25,000 to \$1 million. The researchers then compared the results with existing data on income and happiness. The subjects associated greater unhappiness with a low income than is actually the case (although they were accurate in their predictions for incomes of \$90,000 and over). The lead author was Lara Akin, a PhD student working with Dunn. “There is a real but modest relationship between money and happiness,” she says. “But our studies show that adult Americans erroneously believe that earning less than median income is associated with severely diminished happiness.”

A third UBC study by John Helliwell and graduate student Haifang Huang (now teaching at the University of Alberta) demonstrated that the level of trust employees had for managers was a major factor in their life satisfaction. “If employees are higher by one point on a 10-point scale in their assessment of the trustworthiness of their managers,” says Helliwell, “the effect on their life satisfaction is equal to a pay increase of

more than 30 per cent.” Trust in multiple life areas leads to even greater satisfaction, says Helliwell, who authored another paper (with grad student Shun Wang) using well-being data from the Gallup World Poll and the Canadian General Social Survey. The surveys asked if respondents believed their (hypothetically) lost wallet would be returned by police, neighbours, strangers and other individuals. “Those who think their lost wallet would be returned if found by a neighbour or the police report an increase in subjective well-being similar to that associated with an increase of household income of about two thirds,” says Helliwell.

**African Entrepreneurship 101**

● While business entrepreneurship has profit as its defining goal, social entrepreneurship aims to produce something of lasting value for communities. It seeks innovative and sustainable solutions to help solve social problems. A course based out of the Sauder School of Business has been combating poverty and unemployment in a Nairobi slum since 2006 by encouraging economic growth and diversity through the teaching of business skills to locals.

Every year associate professor Nancy Langton visits Kibera, the largest slum in East Africa, taking with her graduate and undergraduate students who teach local would-be entrepreneurs the skills they need to succeed, including accounting, marketing, and managing human resources. So far, 225 local youth have participated.

The idea was inspired by a similar initiative in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside: Entrepreneurship

101, which started in 2001 with a grant from HSBC. Faculty and students not only taught residents the basics of setting up a small business, they also removed barriers to attending class. They provided childcare, transit fare and a meal to those attendees who required them. Several small businesses were established as a result of the program.

In Kibera, Kenyan youth take part in an intensive three-week program that helps them draft a business plan they can use to help secure financial loans. Micro-financing institutions, in particular, are interested in these enterprises, and are a growing trend in some African countries. The program emphasizes social impact and some entrepreneurial efforts have been directed towards such things as AIDS education and garbage recycling. Other enterprises emerging from the program include restaurants, graphic design services and business plan consultancy.

Langton spends time promoting the program to Kenyan church parishioners in an effort to encourage continued support and mentorship for youth. She also encourages members of the UBC community to lend a hand. “There are so many ways to be involved with this project,” she says. “We can use help with writing grants, marketing, curriculum development, with mentorship, with micro-financing ideas.”

Learn more at [www.africa.sauder.ubc.ca](http://www.africa.sauder.ubc.ca) and follow on Twitter: SE101Africa.

**Sharing the Health**

● UBC is the first Canadian institution to sign the Statement of Principles and Strategies for the Equitable Dissemination of Medical Technologies. Along with 14 major institutions in the US, the university has pledged to make drugs and therapies resulting from research discoveries more accessible to those in developing countries. The principles include ensuring generic versions of patented drugs for those unable to afford them, and methods for monitoring the effectiveness of access licensing programs.

The thrust for this initiative came originally from the student-driven organization Universities Allied for Essential Medicines (UAEM). In 2007 UBC responded to this organization’s calls for action by setting up the Global Access Initiative (GAI), which encompassed other research

discoveries as well as medical. “Biotechnology was the most apparent use, but in developing our Global Access Principles we sought to apply them in the broadest sense possible,” says the director of UBC’s Industry Liaison Office, Angus Livingstone. “UBC research has a stellar track record of addressing real-world problems, including those experienced by both developing and developed nations: food security, sustainability and the environment.” Because of his involvement setting up the GAI, Livingstone was able to lend his experience in formulating the new statement, alongside US university colleagues and the Association of University Technology.

First year medical student Mike Gretes is chair of the UBC chapter of UAEM. He applauds UBC’s involvement and hopes the university will take a leading role in encouraging other universities to come on board, in expanding the principles beyond drugs and medical technologies, and in including poor populations based in middle income countries.

“UBC’s leadership in both technology transfer and global access principles is recognized by other institutions and agencies such as the GATES Foundation-funded Consortium for Parasitic Drug Development,” says Livingstone. “This is especially poignant in today’s dire economic times. But in encouraging our industry partners to rethink their practices and the potential positive impact this approach may have, we’re bringing the essence of innovation and discovery one step further as global citizens.”

**UBC Votes for Argentina**

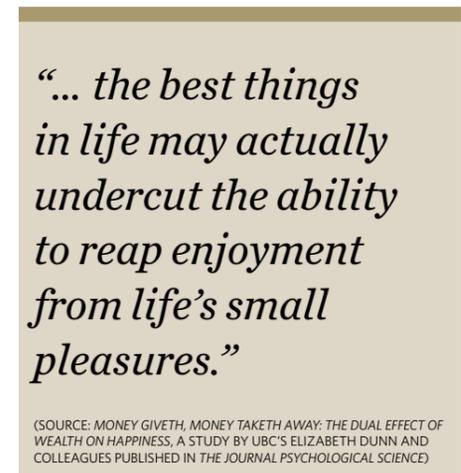
● Since 2006, UBC has helped to shape political and electoral debate in Argentina through its involvement in the website project Argentina Elections ([www.argentinaelections.com](http://www.argentinaelections.com)). The website analyzes, strengthens and deepens public debate about the Argentine electoral regime and its influence in the political system.

The site is based on the experience of another website project, Peru Elections 2006, which was developed and run by UBC political science professor Maxwell Cameron. A team of researchers and political scientists worked with Dr. Cameron, including Hugo Passarello Luna a graduate of UBC’s International Relations and Film Production program and recipient of the Mary M. Young Global Citizen Award from Argentina.

On Alzheimer’s

- **Approximately 500,000 Canadians are living with Alzheimer’s disease or a related dementia.**
- **Of the 500,000 people affected, more than 71,000 of them are under the age of 65, and approximately 50,000 of them are under the age of 60.**
- **1 in 11 people over the age of 65 currently have Alzheimer’s disease or a related dementia.**
- **Women make up 72 per cent of Canadians with Alzheimer’s disease.**
- **Within just five years, an additional 250,000 Canadians could develop Alzheimer’s disease or a related dementia.**
- **Within a generation (25 years), the number of people living with Alzheimer’s disease or a related dementia could reach between 1 million and 1.3 million.**

(SOURCE: INITIAL FINDINGS FROM THE STUDY RISING TIDE: THE IMPACT OF DEMENTIA ON CANADIAN SOCIETY BY THE ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF CANADA IN CONJUNCTION WITH RISKANALYTICA.)



In countries where access to information is complex, limited and arguably credible, the site aims to provide reliable, complete and free data to academics and citizens. Since its creation in late 2006, the site has received more than 348,000 visits and is considered the leading electoral resource in the country and one of the most important in the region.

The site is a non-partisan, plural and academic publication, which earned it the recognition of the National Electoral Chamber (equivalent to Elections Canada), the National Electoral Commission (Argentina's supreme electoral court), all national political parties and various electoral offices around the world. Since 2008 the team was invited to be part of the select ACE Electoral Knowledge Network developed by the worldwide leading electoral organizations IDEA, IFES, Elections Canada and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA).

The website has the most complete electoral guide of Argentina, with detailed information for voters, and it contains more than 50 interviews of top political figures, including several candidates from the last two national elections.

The online debate is launched. Argentine citizens, and the rest of the world, are benefiting from a tool that helps to reinforce democratic institutions by promoting transparency and encouraging electoral debate in a scenario where political confrontation is common.

Argentina Elections would like to thank the continuous support of Dr. Cameron and UBC, especially the Office of Learning Technology for its generosity. If you would like to know more contact Hugo Passarello Luna, Argentina Elections' director, at [info@argentinaelections.com](mailto:info@argentinaelections.com) or visit [www.argentinaelections.com](http://www.argentinaelections.com)

### New Building on Sustainability Street

● UBC is constructing what it hopes will be North America's greenest building, one that will be an inspiring example of how to live sustainably and an ongoing experiment for developing improved methods. Even the building's occupants will be part of the experiment.

The Centre for Interactive Research on Sustainability (CIRS), as it will be known, will be greenhouse gas positive, a net energy producer, and a showcase of the latest in green building technologies and practice. For example, it will

use rain water exclusively, and all waste water will be treated on site. Everything will be monitored including heating, cooling, lighting, equipment use and human behaviour. Occupants will be kept informed about green measures and will be able to indicate how useful and effective these measures are.

The \$37 million construction, due to be completed by next summer, will be the hub of the university's new sustainability initiative. The project is being led by John Robinson, a professor at the Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability and the new executive director of sustainability for UBC's Vancouver campus. "CIRS will create a single home for UBC's sustainable activities," he says. "It's particularly appropriate to take a highly innovative new approach and put it in the most sustainable building in North America."

The building and initiative will centralize and streamline sustainability efforts, encompassing research, operations, and commercialization. As well as academic partners such as SFU, Emily Carr and BCIT, the centre will have commercial partners such as BC Hydro, Haworth and Honeywell. It will also serve as a driver for public involvement. "Community engagement isn't just desirable in principle," says Robinson, "it's actually necessary to achieve a sustainable future. Politicians can't act to change things without a constituency for that change. Business can't deliver sustainable products and services if there isn't a market."

### Cleaning Soil-ution

● UBC professor Lindsay Eltis is leading a project to clean up contaminated soil at military sites. The main culprit is the explosive RDX, a nitramine commonly used as a propellant for tank shells that was developed during WWII.

Dr. Eltis' team is searching for ways to remediate the environmental contamination caused by RDX. The main weapon in the researchers' armoury is Gordonia, a type of bacteria that has evolved to thrive on the contaminants RDX leaves behind. Eltis describes them as the ultimate garbage incinerators, and will be exploring their biochemical and genetic pathways in a bid to improve strategies for removing toxins from the soil. Harnessing the properties of certain bacteria has the potential for providing a cheaper and more effective

## The University of Sustainability

**UBC has already met international targets established by the Kyoto Protocol – a six per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) from 1990 levels – for its core academic buildings. On March 22, Professor Toope announced UBC's new goals:**

- **reduce GHGs an additional 33 per cent from 2007 levels by 2015**
- **reduce GHGs to 67 per cent below 2007 levels by 2020**
- **eliminate 100 per cent of GHGs by 2050**

For more information on UBC's sustainability drive, visit [www.sustain.ubc.ca](http://www.sustain.ubc.ca)

alternative to current clean-up methods, which involve removing and incinerating soil.

This study into the potential for biodegradation of explosives is a \$3.45 million project funded by Genome BC and the US Military. Soil samples are being provided by Defence Research and Development Canada, an Agency of the Canadian Department of National Defence.

Dr. Eltis, a professor of microbiology and immunology, also leads an interdisciplinary research group that is exploring the use of microorganism for the degradation of PCBs. Microorganisms also hold promise in the development of novel therapeutics to treat infectious diseases, and Dr. Eltis is founding director of the Centre for Tuberculosis Research at UBC.

### Changing Mass to Gas

● A first-of-its-kind bioenergy project at UBC will generate enough clean electricity to power 1,500 homes, reduce the university's natural gas consumption by up to 12 per cent and eliminate up to 4,500 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions per year, the equivalent of taking 1,100 cars off the road.

The \$26 million Bioenergy Research and Demonstration Project will be the first North American demonstration of a biomass-fueled heat-and-power generation system. UBC's Vancouver campus will see the installation of a biomass gasification system that will operate in co-generation mode for electric power production



Cigdem Eskicioglu is turning waste into energy.

(up to six per cent of the campus's average demand) and in thermal mode to produce steam (about 25 per cent of campus requirement).

It will also provide research and learning opportunities for faculty and students, yield valuable new knowledge in the clean energy sector and inform new global standards for bioenergy system performance. The project is a partnership with Vancouver-based Nexterra Systems Corp. and GE Water & Power.

### Engineering More Sustainable Communities

● UBC Okanagan engineering professor Cigdem Eskicioglu is working with BC farms, factories, municipalities such as the City of Kelowna, and a pulp mill in Quesnel to identify effective ways to turn their organic waste into renewable energy – methane – and organic fertilizer in anaerobic digesters.

Eskicioglu's research is improving energy production from agricultural and industrial waste by thermal/mechanical disintegration methods, while also diverting waste from landfills and reducing pathogens, odour, and greenhouse gas emissions. "In Canada, our waste is not utilized as a resource," says Eskicioglu. "If we can make use of the waste in innovative ways to extract energy and recycle it within our communities, this will take Canada a step closer to achieving its Kyoto targets for greenhouse gas reduction." ●

- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -



## Place and Promise: The Process of Definition

Stephen J. Toope, President, UBC

Every few years most universities – and indeed most individuals – find it useful to reflect on the goals and aspirations that inform their activities. Is the institution on the right path? Is it fulfilling its mandate to the people it serves? Is it focusing on its strengths? Is it building resources to combat its weaknesses? Is it the best it can be?

As the president of one of the world's top research universities, I see it as my responsibility to ensure that this analysis is undertaken and to lead the formulation and implementation of a plan for the future.

Of course, building a strategic plan hasn't been a one-person job. Other university leaders, faculty, staff, students and alumni have contributed untold hours of work over the past 18 months to help bring this plan together. As such, it reflects a deep understanding of the university – its great parts and its less strong – and a powerful desire to make their university even better.

UBC's new strategic plan, *Place and Promise*, builds on the excellent work represented in *Trek 2010*, the strategic plan endorsed by the university community in 2006. Many of the goals put forth in that document have been achieved. For instance, "UBC... aspires to be one of the world's leading universities..." is no longer an aspiration; it is a reality.

The traditional approach to building a strategic plan is to craft a vision statement that outlines, in general, the overarching goals that will define the university. This is the vision we – the combined talent pool mentioned above – aspire to at UBC:

*As one of the world's leading universities, The University of British Columbia creates an exceptional learning environment that fosters global citizenship, advances a civil and sustainable society, and supports outstanding research to serve the people*

*of British Columbia, Canada and the world.*

Then, following tradition, a mission statement would be crafted that defined some of the tactics to be undertaken to achieve our vision. But this is where we abandoned tradition and struck out into new territory, at least as it applies to institutional definition. Instead, we looked at the values we hold as individuals and how those values might apply to a leading public university like UBC. These values – academic freedom; advancing and sharing knowledge; excellence; integrity; mutual respect and equity; and public interest – are as close as we could come to describing an ideal values-environment for our university.

Our community then elaborated nine commitments we will undertake to create an exceptional learning environment. These commitments are the priorities that determine how our financial and intellectual resources will be used in the years to come. The central commitments are student learning, research excellence and community engagement. They are buttressed by six commitments that speak more precisely to our situation at UBC: aboriginal engagement, alumni engagement, intercultural understanding, international engagement, outstanding work environment, and sustainability.

This combination of vision, values and commitments is unique among world universities and continues the process of defining UBC's distinct footprint as an outstanding institution of teaching, learning and research.

Those of our alumni and friends for whom we have email addresses will have received an expanded version of our rationale and process for *Place and Promise*, along with my invitation to visit [www.ubc.strategicplan.ca](http://www.ubc.strategicplan.ca) for a complete, downloadable copy of *Place and Promise*. I invite *Trek Magazine* readers to do the same.

- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE -

## A Fond Farewell

Marie Earl, Executive Director,  
UBC Alumni Association,  
Associate Vice President, Alumni



I've been here in beautiful British Columbia for more than five years now. Long enough to feel seriously conflicted when Canada loses to USA in the preliminary round of Olympic men's hockey games. My loyalties straddle these two great nations and two of their finest institutions: the University of British Columbia, for which I have had the privilege of serving as Associate Vice President, Alumni, and Executive Director of the UBC Alumni Association, and my alma mater Stanford University.

I'll be leaving my job at UBC at the end of the academic year in May to return to California. My husband and I have taken turns professionally these past 30 years, and he has recently taken on an executive leadership role in Silicon Valley.

The past five years here have been enormously rewarding for me professionally, as we have been able to make real advances in the relationship UBC has with

its alumni body, to the benefit of both UBC and alumni. In this instance, "we" includes UBC's leadership team, the volunteer leaders of the UBC Alumni Association Board of Directors, partners all across the university, and the 30 professionals who make up the UBC Alumni Affairs team at UBC's Point Grey and Okanagan campuses, at the Medical Student & Alumni Centre (near Vancouver General Hospital), and at UBC's Asia Pacific Regional Office in Hong Kong. In addition to this dedicated cadre, thousands of students, alumni and friends have contributed their time, talent, and treasure to making our community one of value to us all.

While it will be terribly difficult to leave UBC, I take comfort in the degree of ownership these many stakeholders feel toward our collective enterprise. Moreover, UBC's new strategic plan, *Place & Promise*, includes alumni engagement as one of nine institutional commitments, creating a roadmap for our future. Our vision - "UBC engages its alumni fully in the life of the institution, as valued supporters, advocates and lifelong learners who contribute to and benefit from connections to each other and to the University."

I have no doubt that we will one day realize this vision and have promised to come back in 2013 for the opening of UBC's Alumni Centre (now in the design and fundraising stage) at the heart of the new University Square development on our Point Grey campus. Until then, I will continue to track your progress from south of the border with real pleasure and immense pride. Tuum Est!

- ASSOCIATION CHAIR'S MESSAGE -

## Where the Heart is: A Home for Alumni

Ian Robertson, BSc'86, BA'88, MBA,  
MA, Chair, UBC Alumni Association



First impressions count, and that goes for places as well as people. Take UBC's Vancouver campus, for example. Many people coming here for the first time are overwhelmed by the size, scope and complexity of the university, and find it hard to know where to start.

Surveys tell us that a great many UBC alumni return to campus after graduation. Some come to take courses, some to attend events, some to show off the campus to visitors and some just to visit old haunts. Even though landmarks like the Ladner Clock Tower and Main Library still provide a comforting familiarity, the campus is growing and changing so rapidly it might be a daunting place for them to navigate.

During the past five years on the Board of Directors, I've become familiar with the many campus changes. I can only wonder what an alumnus from even 10 years ago must think when he or she visits UBC again for the first time. They may well be as disoriented as a first-time visitor.

Fortunately, there's a major transformation in the pipeline designed to make our campus accessible, welcoming and inviting, a place to spend time, no matter what brings you back. Our new Alumni Centre will provide that transformation in grand style.

The Centre will be located west of War Memorial Gym and south of the Student Union Building at the corner of University Boulevard and East Mall, which has been aptly described as the heart of the Vancouver campus. It will be a landmark, a first port of call for visitors. It will be a vibrant hub where the campus community can gather, meet, celebrate and connect with the rich intellectual and social life of the university. It will celebrate our past and be a cornerstone of our future.

The new Alumni Centre - along with a new and expanded Student Union Building - will be part of an extensive makeover of University Boulevard, with

the redeveloped area designed to transform the way we see, feel, access and enjoy the Vancouver campus.

Many people have worked for years to make the University Boulevard revamp a reality. The planning process has been shared, criticized, altered and improved, with students, alumni and staff all contributing to an eventual outcome in which we will all share.

One of the hardest workers in this regard has been the Association's Executive Director, Marie Earl. Since her arrival, Marie has been a driving force behind this and every other alumni endeavour at UBC. From our events and communications to our impact on faculties and senior administrators, Marie has increased the quality and the frequency of our activities, and has easily doubled the level of our engagement with our alumni. She has increased our confidence and improved our work to the point where we can say that the alumni programs offered at UBC are the best in the country.

Marie is returning to California after providing five years of outstanding leadership. She leaves almost as reluctantly as we wave her off.

Marie, we wish you a happy and successful future. On behalf of our quarter million strong UBC alumni, "Thank you!"

**Dear Editor:**

The Fall issue of *Trek* was a great blend of history and news, with many interesting articles. I enjoy the nuggets you have been digging up about UBC.

What prompted me to write was an article that sparked an old memory. You mention the Engineering E Block on pg. 23. Yes, I remember walking past it from the parking lot. Yes, it was painted over by many faculties but the engineers always had it repainted as fast as could be. Students had great stories about how the block was indestructible.

The E Block was also special because it was the only faculty-related item that I can remember that was repeatedly defaced. I don't think any other faculty had something like the E Block, which is why I always thought the greatest stunt played on it was the "tar and feather" job done in the early 1980s. It took the 'geers weeks to clean it. The strange thing was it never was covered by the campus paper. I don't recall any public statement of responsibility but I seem to remember it occurring during Commerce week. As it did no lasting damage, harmed no students, and was original, it stands out in my mind as worthy of being the prank highlight of a decade.

Keep on producing an enjoyable magazine.

Eric Bachleitner, BCom'85



Engineering E Block



Part of the Clock Tower's original carillon system.

**Dear Editor:**

I recall with unusual clarity the weeks of 1988 during which partners in mischief programmed the Ladner Clock Tower Carillon to play *Battle Hymn of the Republic*, better known to us 'geers as the Engineer's Song. At that time there was no cassette player in the control room, but a real Carillon system using perforated paper tape cylinders like those found on a player piano. I was responsible for creating the paper tape program to play that memorable tune.

Allen Dong, PEng, BASc'92

**Ed** - The mystery of how the Clock Tower's chimes are generated has been resolved for us by George McLaughlin, facilities manager with UBC Building Operations:

*"The clock tower does not have any bells, but has speakers, and it always had speakers. There is a carillon system in the small bunker beside the clock tower. Its chimes used to be operated by a mechanical clock and chain system, which has since been replaced by an electronic system. The carillon also used to be operated using a perforated tape - in fact I used to do this for Congregation. There is also an organ in the bunker and, when the system is switched to manual, its sound is played through the speakers."*

Ideas and opinions  
about issues that matter

UBC dialogues

### UBC Dialogues: Coming to a community near you!

UBC Alumni Affairs brings UBC Dialogues to communities near you - asking provocative questions and fostering dialogue. Our event series sponsor for the Lower Mainland is CBC.

Here are some past highlights. For photos and podcasts of these and other UBC Dialogues as well as a listing of which communities we'll be visiting next, see [www.alumni.ubc.ca](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca).

#### (WHISTLER) Is YouTube Killing Canadian Culture: Will the Canadian story go viral? Or will it buffer forever?

Content in the digital world comes at us from every direction. Borders are meaningless, platforms define access and dissemination is universal. What does this mean for Canadian culture? Who's defining us? Can uniquely Canadian stories survive in a streaming universe that has no boundaries?

#### (VICTORIA AND VANCOUVER) Advocate or Activist: What is the best way to effect change?

From debates and lobbyists to boycotts and protesters, political action takes many forms. Is there a time and place for righteous indignation? Or is it more effective to engage in dialogue with those we oppose?

#### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: UBC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

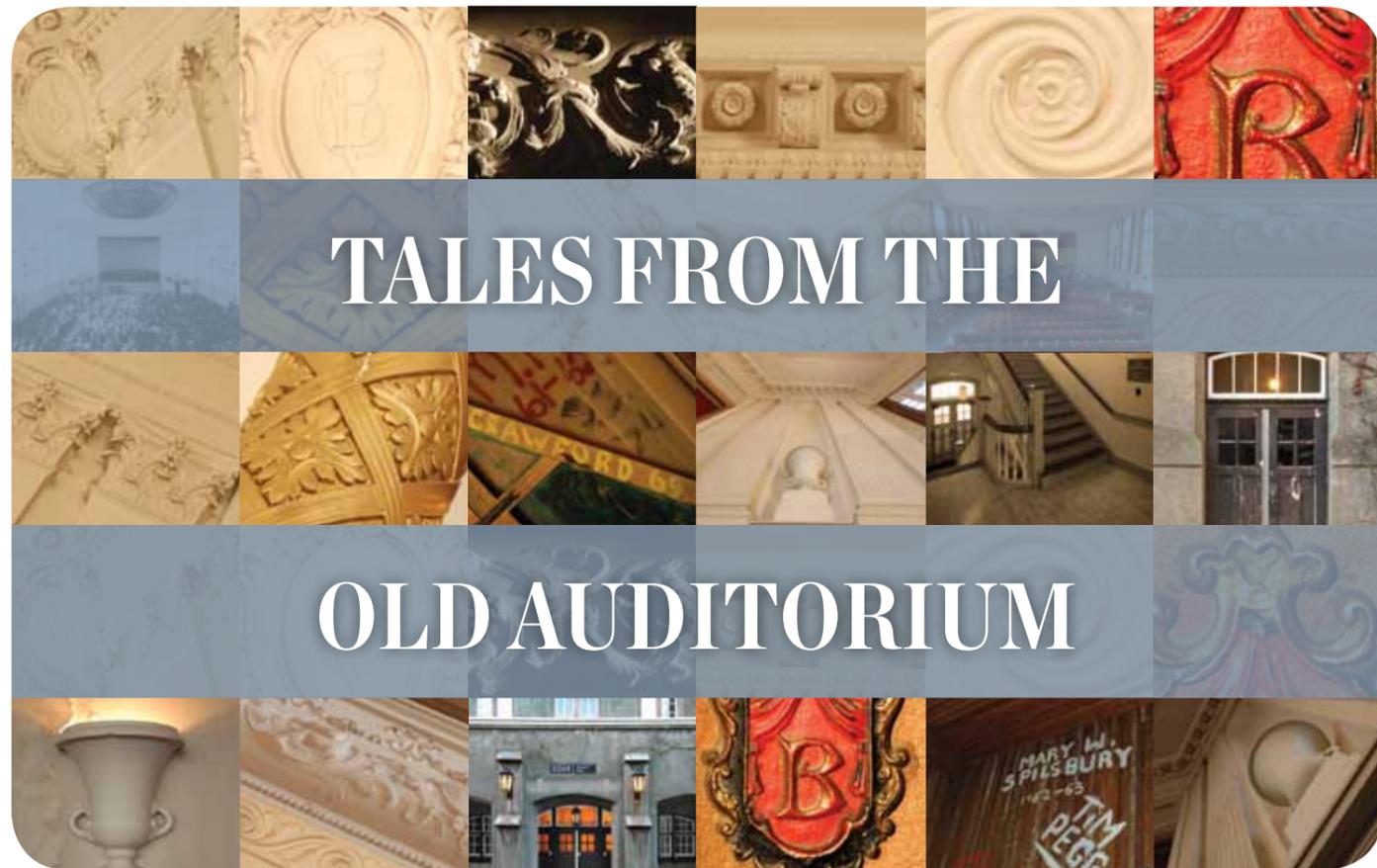
Positions Available for the 2010/2011 Year:

<b>VICE CHAIR</b>	1 position available (1 Year Term)
<b>TREASURER</b>	1 position available (2 Year Term)
<b>MEMBER-AT-LARGE</b>	2 positions available (3 Year Term)

Position descriptions are available online.

Please note that these positions require certain experience and qualifications. Visit our website ([www.alumni.ubc.ca](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca)) to learn more about the application process.

All applications must be received no later than 4:30pm on Monday, May 10, 2010.



# TALES FROM THE OLD AUDITORIUM

The Old Auditorium is one of UBC's original buildings. Over many decades it has been a hub of student activity and a favourite venue for musical and theatrical performances. Since walls can't talk, we asked alumni to send us their recollections about this campus landmark.

## **RAE ACKERMAN BA'65** (Director, Vancouver Civic Theatres)

As a theatre major in the beginning years of that department, my student life centred around the Old Auditorium. I was a member of the Players' Club, worked on Mussoc shows, crewed for rentals, built scenery and focussed lights for Summer School of Theatre, Summer School of Opera and Theatre Department shows, the lot.

One of these was *Henry IV – Part 1* starring a young John Wright as Prince Henry. Crammed into a corner backstage during the battle scenes was Bill Millerd (now artistic director of Vancouver's Arts Club Theatre Company) playing a little snare drum and ducking as fellow students ran on and off stage swinging real-steel Stratford swords. And of course I was on stage acting whenever that opportunity came along too.

The Old Auditorium was where I learned one of the most important lessons of my life. The Players' Club annually produced a noon-hour, one-act comedy called *Her Scienceman Lover* and ran it for several performances each year. It was written by Eric Nicol when he was a student

in the 1940s and from the beginning Norman Young played the male lead, an engineering student named Joe Beef. By the time I was a student in the '60s Norman had become the technical director for the Theatre Department, was in his 30s and wore the part of Joe Beef like a second skin, knew exactly where every laugh was and could milk an audience dry. Or maybe it was the case that Eric Nicol had originally written the part for him, so he just had to act himself.

That year, backstage after the opening performance, Norman tossed me his engineering jacket and slide rule and said "Here, you play Joe Beef tomorrow. I can't make it." I had worked the show the year before and this year so I knew the lines and blocking, knew the timing and where the laughs were. So the next day, on I went, pretending as hard as I could to be Norman, letting the gag lines fly and holding for the laughs – which never, ever came. Not a single laugh. Just a deathly silence. From that moment on I eliminated acting as a career option.

## **R. A. HAWRELAK BAsc'58, MAsc'60**

I remember the Old Aud well, especially the rivalry between the nurses and the engineers regarding who could put on the filthiest skit. Those yearly sessions were jam-packed and we usually had to skip our 11:00 AM class to get a seat.

## **MARY W. ROSS (SPILSBURY) BA'63**

"Mom, I can't believe it! Your name is scrawled in huge letters on the ceiling backstage at the UBC Auditorium." I could just picture my daughter at the other end of the telephone, rolling her eyes with horror and giggling. Truly, I had quite forgotten that 28 years before that call I had managed to climb the rigging carrying a paint pot to autograph the old 1925 brickwork at the very highest point. That Old Auditorium was like home to me and to a wild and eccentric gaggle of drama students in the early 1960s. The professors were not much older than we were and, although we all worked hard on every production, we played like there was no tomorrow. These were our salad days. Thank heavens the walls cannot talk.

The drama professor and director in 1962 was the late John Brockington, whom we all admired and respected, and my first show was Shakespeare's *Henry IV – Part 1*. My roommate, the late Katherine Robertson, was assistant director. After graduation she became the production manager of *Anne of Green Gables* in Charlottetown and for several seasons at the Stratford Festival in Niagara on the Lake. She married British-born actor/director Paxton Whitehead, moving with him to the US. She returned to stage-manage the opening of EXPO 86. My other roommate, Nora Wright (McNeill), played Mistress Quickly, the hostess of Boar's Head Tavern. I played the slovenly serving wench with no lines – only a cackle and a drunken roll down the staircase clutching a goblet of wine. I got a huge laugh on opening night much to Brockington's disgust. He gave me a stern lecture about trying to steal the scene from Sir John Falstaff, played by John Brighton. Henry, Prince of Wales, was none other than John Wright, who became the head of Theatre, Film and Creative Writing (1994-1999). John later founded Vancouver's Blackbird Theatre in 2004 with fellow graduate Nicola Cavendish, a legendary actress, director and writer. Another member of the cast was Alan Scarfe, who played Owen Glendower. Alan was

**"Mom, I can't believe it! Your name is scrawled in huge letters on the ceiling backstage at the UBC Auditorium."**



Mary W. Ross (Spilsbury)



born in England and had a rich British accent that took him far. After his time at UBC he became a professional actor, first in 1964 at the Vancouver Playhouse starring in *Julius Caesar*, and later spent many seasons at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival travelling the breadth of Canada writing, acting and directing. Alan is probably best known for the starring role in the TV series *Seven Days* and in 1985 won a Genie Award for Best Performance as an Actor in *The Bay Boy*. Other talented actors like Mike Mathews and Karl Wylie were part of the golden years of the early '60s at UBC.

The Auditorium was also home to Mussoc. During the two years I was there, we staged *Once Upon a Mattress*, a 1959 off-Broadway adaption of Hans Christian Andersen's *The Princess and the Pea* with music by Mary Rogers, and the following year the very popular *Bye Bye Birdie*, with music by Charles Strouse and lyrics by Lee Adams. In the former I danced the prologue with choreography by the late Grace Macdonald, who later hired me for the ballet company of the Vancouver International Festival, which included dancing in *Merry Wives of Windsor*, with the witches in *Macbeth*, and as the evil mermaid in *Peter Pan*. Grace introduced me to the production team at Theatre Under the Stars

and gave me my start as a professional ballet and jazz dancer. For 33 years Grace choreographed most of the Mussoc productions, and musical theatre thrived under her in the Old Auditorium. It would be a shame if her name and contribution were forgotten.

"Mom, I have something to confess," announced my daughter, Meg, on the telephone yesterday. "On graduation night, I climbed a ladder backstage in the Freddy Wood Theatre and scrawled my name at the highest possible place near the ceiling: Meg Ross, BFA'96."

## **JOHN R. BENNIST BSc(Physics)'71**

I was a member of the UBC Film Society from 1966 to 1971, and fondly recall operating our carbon-arc-lamp 16mm projectors in the tiny projection booth of the Old Aud for general film presentations on Thursdays, noon to midnight, and for Cinema 16 (the student film society) on Monday evenings.

My favourite recollection is when we ran a double-feature of the Beatles movies *A Hard Day's Night* and *HELP!* We sold out the house for all shows, and did it again some weeks later in response to the enormous demand.

This was at a time when we were charging

**“... Diane came down hard with her high heel shoes on Mary’s foot and she danced away with three shoes on and Mary only had one. We laughed so hard we cried but Mary didn’t think it was very funny.”**

\$0.50 admission. We set up two tables, one at each lobby door, and those with exact change dropped their coins into a box on the table as they rushed by to find a seat. The money generated by this spectacular event helped to finance various capital costs involved in our subsequent move into the new Student Union Building.

**SALLY OLSEN *BE’70***

I was at UBC in 1960-61 for my first year at university and had my psychology class in the Auditorium. There were so many people in that class, but none of my friends had come to university and I didn’t know anyone. I always sat in the same place for security, as we often do, on the left side near the front and got to know some people around me. We often went afterwards to get UBC’s famous cinnamon buns and talk about the ideas presented by the professor in the class.

The most memorable class for me was when the professor had a young fellow burst into the Auditorium from the back, halfway through the class, run down the aisle and out the front stage. Another young fellow chased him. The professor continued on as if it hadn’t happened. Then he paused and asked us what the young man who was chasing the first was wearing. Many people had different descriptions of what he had on, his height, hair colour, and so on, and we quickly learned that our testimony in being a witness to a crime might not be reliable.

There were many other happy or interesting times in the Auditorium but I particularly remember Rolf Harris with his didgeridoo and wobble board singing *Tie Me Kangaroo Down, Sport* and all the Road Runner movies.

**DON MUNRO *BSF’60***  
*(Professor Emeritus)*

Surely one of the historic events was when, on a weekend with nobody there, the entire ceiling collapsed.

As a student in the ’50s I watched Premier Bennett lose his temper after being heckled and throw his book of notes at the hecklers. He then walked out leaving his Attorney General Robert Bonnor to finish.

**JOY YORATH *BA’65***

In the early 1960s my friend was in *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying*. Mary Stewart (the Olympic swimmer and mascot of the BC Lions) had a lead role. My friend, Diane O’Hara (Hood), had a dancing part in the show. During the number Diane came down hard with her high heel shoes on Mary’s foot and she danced away with three shoes on and Mary only had one. We laughed so hard we cried but Mary didn’t think it was very funny.

The guys at UBC in those years spent every long Thursday lunch hour in the Auditorium watching Road Runner cartoons.

**MARIAN SMITH (MACMILLAN, HANSEN) *BA’64***

I don’t remember any specifics about shows in the Auditorium, but I do remember Psych 100 classes there. I think there were more than 500 of us in the class! It was quite an experience for a kid from Magee, whose graduating class was a fraction of that size.

My best memories are of cinnamon buns and hot chocolate in the Cafeteria. As a commuter, I parked in Siberia, which was a good 20 minute walk from the center of campus. My regular stop in the Cafeteria fortified me for the day. I also remember that it seemed to rain every Thursday afternoon during the fall of 1960, my freshman year, and on Thursdays I had a late lab so my car pool left without me. I remember waiting for the bus and feeling honored to stand in the rain with the cinnamon-bun lady, who made those wonderful confections.

**ROBIN RICHARDSON *BA’71***

I remember Robert Stanfield speaking in the Old Auditorium, not during an election campaign, but after he was elected leader of the Progressive Conservatives, and at a time when many thought he’d be the next PM. I remember being impressed by his earnest approach, but wondering why they had dressed him in a plaid suit.

**DON CHUTTER *BCom’44***

The reasons why so many UBC grads have memories about the Aud are because it was a multi-purpose building and in earlier times was the hub of many student activities. I daresay that in my days most students entered the building, if not daily, at least on a weekly basis.

It was the location for a whole host of activities: student assemblies and election campaigns, pep meets, visiting bands and star musicians, prominent guest speakers, concerts by the UBC Band (featuring Phil Nimmons on the clarinet and George Reifel on the drums) and periodic performances of *Her Scienceman Lover* (sub-titled *The Birth of a Nation*) written by Jabez (later revealed to be Eric Nicol). The Aud was also the scene of convocations in the days of smaller graduation classes.

The Aud also housed the Musical Society’s club room (at stage level) and, above it, the Players’ Club’s Green Room. I can’t speak for the former (we Players’ Clubbers tended to look down at the Mussoc both physically and culturally) but the Green Room was the daily hangout for a lively group of talented students and exceptionally pretty girls. Many freshettes tried out for the Players’ Club. Male and female characters with stage experience usually were admitted by the adjudication committee, as were the aforesaid campus beauties. Some of the latter could also act well and the others were gainfully occupied in backstage work.

But it was the Cafeteria in the Aud’s basement that was the main centre of activity, especially in the lunch hour when students converged there

to eat their sandwiches or buy Caf food and the notorious Caf coffee. This was also the meeting place for fraternities and sororities. Each had a reserved table. At other times of the day the tables were sometimes used by avid bridge players or for meetings of smaller clubs.

And outside of the Aud was the quad, a crossroads of students going to and from adjacent classrooms – another aspect that made the Aud so central to daily campus life and future memories.

**BRENDA GUILD *BSc(Zoology,Hons)’72***

In April of 1969, on a sweltering morning, I had an exam in the Old Auditorium, which was a tinderbox. I was 17, finishing first year science. Several hundred of us filed into the rows of wooden chairs set facing north before old wooden table-desks.

We were late starting, because transom windows had to be opened so we could breathe. They proved stubborn, but we finally got underway about 10 minutes late. We couldn’t go overtime, because another exam was scheduled. The pressure was really on, and the exam was a stinker.

A fellow near me started slowly ripping his exam into strips, then tearing the strips into smaller pieces. Grad student invigilators could see, but let him freely express his opinion. He appeared calm, although all of us felt the boiling, cloying atmosphere and added pressure. He gradually built a neat pile of entirely shredded exam.

With about half an hour to finish – I had a couple of essay questions to plow through – he

took out pocket matches and lit his little creation.

The flames leapt high, creating a lot of smoke. Now the invigilators burst into action to clear everyone from the room, while they put out the fire and grabbed the student. He went so nuts that they all had to deal with him, leaving the rest of us on the street to mill about, then straggle away. Some thought it was a great protest and hilarious.

Maybe that’s all it was, but I remembered a very stressed young woman who had committed suicide in the main library that February and a young man who had leapt to his death from his sixth floor Totem Park room that same month. There was a third suicide, but I can’t remember where or how. This is how Reading Break – a three-day long weekend at first, then four, now Reading Week – got started, to counter the mid-winter gloom.

In any case, the exam was clearly over, and our funny/wacked-out protester was taken for psychiatric assessment. Marks were scaled, of course, but I didn’t do as well as I might have, because I left the essay part of the exam to last, counting on my ability to write quickly.

On the rare occasion now when I walk by the Old Auditorium, these memories tumble back as if it were yesterday. Life was very bright and intense in those days, as it is for all young people. UBC has a lot of tender souls in its hands, and every vigilance and kindness is necessary and will be repaid times over.

**BILL BARTLET *BASc(Elec)’48***  
**AND MILLA BARTLET (WARDLE) *BA(SGWU)***  
**ATTENDED UBC 1943-1945**

The old Auditorium is the building we remember best about UBC. We first met in the quad, between the east side of the Auditorium and the old Arts building, in October 1943. There were many meetings from then until 1948, when Bill graduated and we married – Arts Balls and Science Balls, coffees in the Caf, dances at the Brock. Then we moved to Montreal, where we have lived ever since.

Every trip we take to Vancouver always includes a visit to UBC and the quad, and the Auditorium steps where we sat and planned and chatted so many years ago. I wonder, will those same steps be there when next we visit?



## BARBARA DALBY (HARPER) BA'57

I attended UBC in the years after the war when all venues on the campus were over-crowded. The sudden influx of ex-service people stretched to the limit the few small classrooms. In addition to the series of hurriedly assembled army huts, all available buildings were put to use, including the Auditorium itself. I took Psych 100 in the latter, along with two hundred other students all balancing loose-leaf binders or brief cases on their knees. We hearkened to a prof who was far away, up there on the stage.

And then there were the artistic presentations every noon hour. To students from Smalltown, BC, it seemed amazing to have such an opportunity. Munching sandwiches we prepared to listen to the university choir, or an opera singer or a Jokers' Club skit. The scheduled speaker might be a noted scientist, or Dr. MacKenzie, the Chancellor, or Endicott of the Labour Progressive Party. With some muttering and skepticism we once heard a young hopeful Conservative politician extravagantly introduced as "the next Prime Minister of Canada." His name was John Diefenbaker.

It was in the Auditorium foyer where, clutching an armful of books with one hand and a door panel with the other, I heard the great Red Army Chorus roaring out the Volga Boat song. For by the time I'd arrived, puffing from a Phys Ed class in the Old Gym, there had been standing room only. Perhaps the authorities learned from the crowding at the Red Army Chorus event, because when famous bass Paul Robeson performed, he was not scheduled for

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**With some muttering and skepticism we once heard a young hopeful Conservative politician extravagantly introduced as "the next Prime Minister of Canada." His name was John Diefenbaker.**

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the Auditorium. Instead, to a huge and wildly enthusiastic audience, he sang in the Old Armouries.

Denied entry at the US border for his political stance, Robeson had sung anyway to a crowd waiting on both sides of the border. But part way through our concert he stopped to remind us that unlike himself, or certain isolated stars like Lena Horne or Duke Ellington, most blacks had not yet attained freedom. We listened in sympathy and disbelief. But universities do not spawn unanimity of opinion. "Where's Jan Masurek?" shouted someone from the back. A fair question, but asking the wrong man. With no answer to give, Paul Robeson still sang from deep within the heart, thrilling us all and responding to a UBC welcome.

"Well, it's back to the Auditorium tomorrow," we thought. For the Mussoc was presenting *Pirates of Penzance*.

Ah, the old Auditorium! Indeed, somehow you must retain the old gal's stories.

## FRED LIPSETT BAsc'48, MAsc'51

I started at UBC in 1943 and joined the Players' Club. I failed my audition for the fall plays, but had indicated an interest in stage work on my application. I had no experience in this field but, due to the resignation of the incumbent, was appointed stage manager. I was led to the area



Cast and crew of *Much Ado About Nothing* pose for a photo at Kalamalka Lake while on tour in May 1952. Director Joy Coghill is wearing a red jacket.

facing the seats and told "this is the stage." That was my formal education. I managed to learn the trade and became successful.

The stage was poor, with inadequate space in the wings and to the rear. The designers attempted to project the scenery onto a large permanent wall erected near the rear. But the idea was never used and the wall compounded the space problem. We managed, but I hope the renovated Auditorium has an improved stage.

The Auditorium was heavily used. The only place available for the stage crew to build scenery was on the stage, and time was limited. Carpentry and painting were manageable, but setting the lighting was harder, since the stage switch-board was kept padlocked when not in use. One of the stage crew was able to pick the lock and this gave us valuable setup time. However, one afternoon the university electrician, Mr. Fletcher, came on stage and observed what was happening. He relocked the switchboard and gave us a stern warning not to repeat our offence. During my two years as stage manager we were able to arrange the installation of a catwalk behind the proscenium to facilitate lighting, and a fly curtain behind the main curtain to allow acting downstage while something else was being arranged further upstage.

In 1945 I was elected to the Students' Council as president of the Literary and Scientific Executive. I left the stage crew but was aware of



Images submitted by Ed Freeman, stage manager for The Players' Club during the '50s.

the problems of scenery construction. Some members of the crew, in particular Lorne Butterfield and me, made detailed sketches for a small building specially designed for building scenery. I canvassed members of the University Building Committee, who endorsed the project. They chose a site. Members of the university staff made working drawings and built the Scenery Shop.

Life with the stage crew was not without adventures. I toured twice with the Players' Club, mainly to the Okanagan but also to Trail and Victoria. The first tour was by train and shifting scenery and equipment from stage to truck to train, and vice versa, was a tiresome chore. We had to change trains at Sicamous. I still remember the harassed look on the face of the conductor on the platform, watch in hand, observing load after load, from platform to train, as his train lost time.

For my second tour we borrowed a university truck large enough to carry all our scenery and lighting equipment. This worked very well but we did run into a dangerous situation. The crew consisted of Joe Mirko for lighting and me for scenery. We shared the driving. Joe was driving the truck along the winding highway above the shore of Okanagan Lake one sunny Sunday.

Suddenly we came around a blind curve to see a car speeding towards us down the center of the highway. Joe had to pull over to the right, which ended with a steep hill descending to a railway track and then to the lake. Joe was forced onto a soft gravel shoulder and could not turn the truck back onto the road. We drifted to the right, slowly came to a halt and started to roll over towards the hill and the lake. We rolled more than half way around and then came to rest against a tree.

The tree was the only one standing within about a hundred meters, and the local people, who stopped in abundance after the accident, assured us that had we not hit the tree we might have been killed.

Many earlier travellers had lost their lives on that stretch. We were not injured, but now had the problem of getting the truck and its load of upside-down scenery back on the road. The latter had to be unloaded before the truck could be hauled upright. With the aid of a skillful tow truck driver and several bystanders we got going again, after our near death encounter.

I have heard that succeeding plays also toured with university trucks, and all had accidents. I admire the university for its tolerance.

## ED FREEMAN BA'56

I was pleased to read that The Players' Club has been resurrected. I have many pleasant memories of my time as a member. During 1952 to 1955 I was stage manager and participated on the May tours about the province as we presented plays outside Vancouver.

## AMURI R. MOORE (JOHNSON) BA'39

Most fun were the noon hour pep meetings, especially those emceed by Norm de Poe. We practiced yells for the football and basketball teams, sang *Hail UBC* and *My Girl's a Hulaballoo*. A noisy time, especially when, one noon, a large grey rat was held by the tail and hurled about the room – no doubt a scienceman's prank.

We were there to write some final exams, a time of silence, except for the sound of the supervisor walking, or something dropped, or a student leaving, having finished early or been unable to answer many of the questions.

Downstairs was the Caf, furnished with white-topped tables and wire-backed chairs. It was there that some students spent many hours drinking coffee or Coke and talking. If lucky they had money for a soup or a toasted sandwich. Fraternities and sororities claimed some of the tables and made unwelcome the uninvited non-members who sat there.

One evening, while in the Caf at dinnertime, we heard on the radio about the abdication of Edward, King of England.

## PERSIS WILTSHIRE BA'68

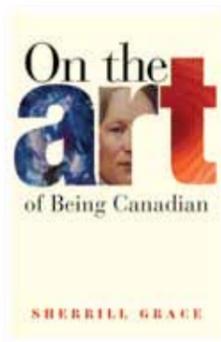
I remember the place as the lecture hall for History 100, back in 1964. The class was so large it was the only place big enough to take us all. I also remember getting free tickets to see Julian Bream play his lute for a CBC broadcast at lunch time. Today I wouldn't be able to afford what he charges (or did before he retired). 🍷

**The Old Auditorium is now undergoing renovations with the grand reopening scheduled for the fall. The new Old Aud will be a performance space for UBC's prestigious School of Music. Find out more at: [www.supporting.ubc.ca/auditorium](http://www.supporting.ubc.ca/auditorium)**



(4) EMILY CARR AND FRIENDS (2005). © JOE FAFARD.

Sherrill Grace's 2009 book explores what the arts can tell us about being Canadian and how Canadian artists have represented our history, our culture, and our landscape. Here she shares her reasons for this labour of love.



ON THE ART OF BEING CANADIAN  
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# · ON WRITING · ON THE ART OF BEING CANADIAN

By **SHERRILL GRACE**

Many things inspired me to write this book, but one of the most significant was a visit I made to the Vancouver Art Gallery in 2004. I was teaching a Canadian Studies seminar that year as the Brenda and David McLean Chair in Canadian Studies, and I organized the course into three units based on the artistic representation of Canada and Canadian identity: one on the country as a northern nation; another on iconic figures from our culture like Glenn Gould or Tom Thomson; and one on Canada and war. When the Canadian war art exhibition, "Canvas of War," opened at the VAG that year, I wanted my students to see it; as we walked together through the gallery, I watched these young people studying the paintings. They would stop and exclaim. "I had no idea," one said in shock. "Why didn't we know about *this*," another protested. They stood before the paintings, sharing concerns that perhaps only their generation could have at the beginning of this century. They knew, of course, that we fought in both World Wars, but they had not realized that artists like A.Y. Jackson, Frederick Varley, Charles Comfort, or Alex Colville, were war artists, and they had never seen such pictures or imagined how a battlefield might look to a horrified and grief-stricken Canadian soldier or painter (1 - see pg. 20).

War art and literature were not the only subjects we explored, and they comprise only one chapter in *On the Art of Being Canadian*. My goal was to introduce students to a wealth of artistic representation of Canadian identity and

to discuss some of the ways in which Canadian artists had represented our history, our culture, and our landscape. I was comparatively new to the study of war art and literature, but like most Canadians of my generation I had been told that Canada came of age during the Great War – indeed, in April 1917 on Vimy Ridge – so I knew I needed to explore this area for myself and with my students. It was not easy for Canadians to see much of their war art until the Canadian War Museum opened its doors in 2005 because it was all but forgotten in storage vaults, and Canada re-imagined itself as a peace-keeping nation after World War Two. Nevertheless, it was the reaction of those young people to the power of their fellow Canadians' art and their sense of being deprived of their heritage that convinced me to write my book.

The significance of the North – or, at least, of our ideas about the North – was an easier subject to approach. I had published *Canada and the Idea of North* (my title inspired by Glenn Gould) in 2001, and the materials to study were much better known. We could even see popular examples of northern imagery (tourist trinkets, advertising, photography) all around us in our southern city. Like most Canadians, none of the students had been to any northern part of the country, so they were an ideal group to be studying how Canadian writers, painters, composers, and filmmakers have imagined Canada-as-North over the past 150 years. Against a backdrop of history, politics, and geography, the artists' works took on fresh

relevance for us. Thus, in Blair Bruce's wonderful painting *The Phantom Hunter* (c.1888) (2), we could see how the solitary hunter collapsing in the snow reinforced 19<sup>th</sup> century fears about Canada as a dangerous frozen wilderness and reminded contemporary Canadians about our continuing vulnerability, a vulnerability captured so well by Quebec photographer Benoit Aquin in his "Lethal Beauty" series on the 1998 ice storm. Rudy Wiebe's masterpiece, the novel *A Discovery of Strangers* (1994), which revisits Sir John Franklin's first expedition to the Northwest Territories in the 1820s, raised further questions about inter-cultural relations and the fate of the final Franklin expedition in the 1840s and why this tragic story still haunts the Canadian imagination and sends contemporary artists and scientists to Beechey Island or King William Island in search of answers. My students were astonished, as I suspect the book's readers will be, by the forensic photographs (3) Owen Beattie took when his research team opened the graves of Franklin's sailors on Beechey Island. We are not accustomed to viewing such gruesome evidence, but this research and the gothic stories and images it inspired (from Beattie and Geiger's book *Frozen in Time: Unlocking the Secrets of the Doomed 1845 Arctic Expedition* to Margaret Atwood's story "The Age of Lead") are now part of our northern mythology. Of course, no treatment of the North is complete without some discussion of the Group of Seven. We spent considerable time revisiting famous canvasses, such as Lawren Harris's *Winter Comes from the Arctic to the Temperate Zone* (c. 1935), and some of the many ways in which the artists and their works have continued to occupy central positions in our national story.

Since my 2005 seminar, artistic responses to the North have continued to appear; the subject is of perennial fascination for Canadians, even though most of us head south during the winter or seek refuge in places like the West Edmonton Mall. Therefore, I updated my chapter "On Creating a Northern Nation" by including discussions of Pierre Berton's *Prisoners of the North* (2004), Elizabeth Hay's *Late Nights on Air* (2007), John Estacio and John Murrell's magnificent opera *Frobisher* (2007), and the memoir *Otherwise* (2008) by the inimitable Farley Mowat. We were able to watch that classic Mowat film *Never Cry Wolf* (1983) in my seminar, but for the book it was essential to reflect on the more recent film (based on



ABOVE (3):  
PHOTO OF JOHN TORRINGTON'S REMAINS  
© OWEN BEATTIE/UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

BELOW (2):  
WILLIAM BLAIR BRUCE (CANADIAN 1859-1906)  
THE PHANTOM HUNTER, 1888  
OIL ON CANVAS - 151.1 X 192.1 CM  
ART GALLERY OF HAMILTON, BRUCE MEMORIAL, 1914

Blair Bruce's Phantom Hunter is subject to copyright.

Please view it on the Art Gallery of Hamilton's website at [www.artgalleryofhamilton.com](http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com)

... in Blair Bruce's wonderful painting *The Phantom Hunter* (c.1888) we could see how the solitary hunter collapsing in the snow reinforced 19<sup>th</sup> century fears about Canada as a dangerous frozen wilderness...

Mowat's short stories) called *The Snow Walker* (2004) directed by Canadian actor Charles Martin Smith, who starred in *Never Cry Wolf*. It was essential because Mowat and Smith challenge many southern misconceptions about the northern territories of Canada by portraying a real, inhabited Arctic, where the Inuit understand how to live. In the current context of climate change, the lessons of this film are important. Although the film does not preach, or mention global warming, it shows viewers a world that is not a barren, empty wasteland, but a complex, beautiful ecosystem that cannot be approached with aggression and arrogance.

From Farley Mowat, the Group of Seven, and John Franklin, it was a short step into my third set of illustrations of Canadian identity: national icons or, as I call my third chapter, "Inventing Iconic Figures." Many real people who have become, with time, the stuff of legend are deeply associated with the North or with, what Canadian geographer Louis-Edmond Hamelin calls, our "nordicity." Franklin, despite being British through and through, is now a Canadian icon because our writers, artists, filmmakers, poets, and singers have created his image for us by telling his story again and again. Few Canadians (whether from my generation or younger ones) can help but feel a frisson of recognition when they hear Stan Rogers singing about "the hand of Franklin, reaching for the Beaufort Sea" in his famous ballad "Northwest Passage." But despite the haunting presence of Franklin, I decided to focus on four other icons of "being Canadian" in the book. They are Louis Riel, Emily Carr, Tom Thomson, and Mina Benson Hubbard. In *Inventing Tom Thomson* (2004), I argued that Canadians have invented an image of a heroic, tragic, almost Parsifal-like Thomson through the numerous stories we have told – and keep telling – about him. The truth is that we know relatively little about the man, who was very private, often rather solitary, and died in his prime leaving no diaries and few letters to explain himself. We have his paintings. But it is his mysterious death that continues to fascinate writers like Roy MacGregor (*Canoe Lake*, 2002) or visual artists like Panya Clark Espinal whose installation piece called *First Snow* (1998) occupied the Tom Thomson shack on the grounds of the McMichael Canadian Art Collection in Kleinburg, Ontario. I visited the McMichael and the installation twice before it was taken down and will never forget the eerie

*[The students] had not realized that artists like A.Y. Jackson, Frederick Varley, Charles Comfort, or Alex Colville were war artists, and they had never seen such pictures or imagined how a battlefield might look to a horrified and grief-stricken Canadian soldier or painter.*



(1) FREDERICK VARLEY  
FOR WHAT?  
CWM 19710261-0770  
BEAVERBROOK COLLECTION OF WAR ART  
© CANADIAN WAR MUSEUM

sensation of peering through a dirty window into the past to find the painter himself nowhere to be seen but his famous canvas *Northern River* sitting on an easel in a room covered in a layer of snow!

Like Thomson, if not quite to the same extent, Emily Carr has been imagined in numerous novels, plays, a song cycle (by Vede Hille) and poems. The finest poetry about Carr comes from BC's own Kate Braid in *To This Cedar Fountain* (1995), a sequence of poems in which Braid imagines talking with the painter, woman to woman, artist to artist. Another of BC's famous artists, actor Joy Coghill, not only wrote the best play to date on Carr, *Song of This Place*, but performed the role of Carr in the 1987 premiere: her likeness to Carr was uncanny! Also like Thomson, Carr has been recreated by visual artists as well – in paintings by John Boyle and most powerfully by one of Canada's most distinguished senior sculptors, Joe Fafard. Fafard's *Emily Carr and Friends* (2005) (4 - see pg. 18) stands on street corners in Vancouver, Toronto, and Montreal to remind us about the importance of art, of being human, and of respecting the natural world. My other icons of being Canadian are Louis Riel and Mina Benson Hubbard. Riel needs no introduction; he is the most written about, debated, and re-imagined (in all the arts) of our great historic

figures. In February 2010, the opera *Louis Riel* (1967) by Harry Somers and Mavor Moore played at UBC in a major revival and its western Canadian premiere. Mina Hubbard is, to date, less familiar to Canadians, but her story of a northern expedition across Labrador in 1905 is now celebrated in biography, novels, stories, films, paintings, and a 2005 re-enactment at Northwest River in Labrador. Mina is that rare thing – a woman explorer in the North, who succeeded in her mission and lived to tell her tale in *A Woman's Way Through Unknown Labrador* (1908; 2004).

*On the Art of Being Canadian* is a labour of love – love of fiction, drama, painting, music, and film – and a testament to the art created by Canadians as they imagine their country, its history, myths, and legendary characters. Writing it was a journey of discovery on which I followed the footsteps of our writers, composers, and artists as they showed me what they think it means to be Canadian. Inevitably, my journey is incomplete. I had to leave a lot out in a book derived from my three public lectures as McLean Chair. There could have been chapters on recent immigrant experiences and on First Nations arts and self-representation, and Quebec is only touched on through specific

artists and their images. However, the journey thus far confirms that being Canadian is rich and rewarding, that we are a northern nation, that we celebrate our artists and our history, that our connection with the land runs very deep, despite our sophisticated, contemporary urban lives, and that we keep reinventing ourselves in war and peace. Becoming Canadian did not happen in one event – at Vimy Ridge, for example – because becoming, like being, Canadian is a continuously unfolding process of imagining who we are and might yet be. ●

*Sherrill Grace is a professor of English, a UBC Distinguished University Scholar, and a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. She has published 23 books including Canada and the Idea of North, Inventing Tom Thomson, the 2004 edition of Mina Hubbard's A Woman's Way Through Unknown Labrador, and Making Theatre: A Life of Sharon Pollock (2008). She is currently writing Landscapes of Memory, a study of Canadian arts and the two World Wars.*

## BLYTHE EAGLES: VOLUNTEER EXTRAORDINAIRE

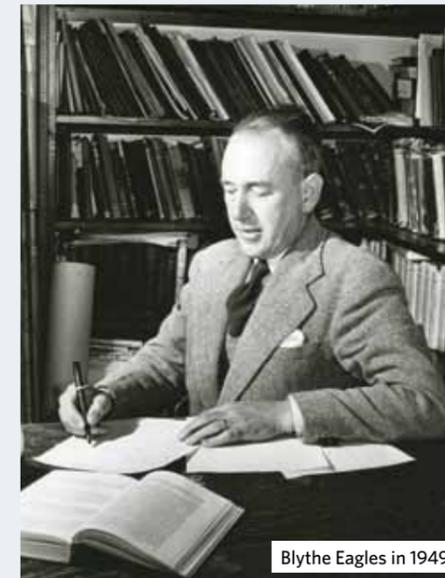
Every year, the UBC Alumni Association gives the Blythe Eagles Volunteer Recognition award to someone who has donated significant amounts of time and talent to the university. Many of these recipients have wondered: "Who the heck is Blythe Eagles?" Blythe Eagles (1902-1990), had a unique understanding of the value of UBC's traditions, and dedicated much of his time making sure UBC maintained its significance in the community.

By **MICHAEL AWMAK**, BA'01, MET'09

Blythe Alfred Eagles, BA'22, DSC'68, was born and raised in New Westminster. He entered UBC's Faculty of Arts in 1918 and excelled academically, graduating in 1922 with the Governor General's Gold Medal. From his early years as a student activist – to his later years as an alumni booster and dean of agriculture, Eagles stands out in UBC history as one of the university's great pioneers.

In the final year of his studies, he participated actively in the Build the University campaign and helped in the collection of more than 56,000 signatures on a petition pressuring the provincial government to resume construction of a permanent Point Grey campus. He also contributed to the planning of the Great Trek, in which more than 1,100 students conducted a boisterous march from the Fairview campus through downtown and on to the Point Grey campus site. By the time the Trek took place in October, however, he had already moved to Ontario to begin graduate studies at the University of Toronto. Despite missing this pivotal moment in UBC's history, his early acts of support for the university's expansion had planted a seed which would eventually grow into a lifelong relationship with his alma mater.

Eagles spent seven eventful years away from British Columbia completing his studies in Toronto, taking on a research fellowship at Yale and carrying out a year-long post-doctoral study at the National Institute for Medical Research in London. He returned home in 1929 and joined the Faculty of Agriculture as an assistant professor. By 1936 he had become a full professor and the department head of Dairying, and in 1949 he was appointed Dean of Agricul-



Blythe Eagles in 1949

ture, a title which he held until his retirement in 1967. He was a quiet, modest man, but he was not afraid to act on his dedication to UBC. He served on the senate for twenty years, and is credited with establishing the reputation for accessibility that his faculty – now known as the Faculty of Land and Food Systems – has developed with members of the province's agricultural community.

Eagles' commitment to his work and voluntary endeavours wasn't exclusive to UBC, however. His remarkable influence could be felt on every project he took on. He was a volunteer member of the Burnaby Town Planning Commission from 1930 until the 1950s, and over this time shaped, in significant ways, the town's

development. He also played a large role in the 1949 creation of Deer Lake Park as a founding member of the Burnaby Lake Men's Club. His home, and the gardens around it, has been preserved as a historical centre at Deer Lake.

Beyond his formal responsibilities at the university and his volunteer commitments in the community, he and his wife, Violet, developed a reputation for holding frequent social gatherings at their Deer Lake home, inviting family, friends and members of the university community. On one of these occasions – the Class of '22 reunion garden party he hosted in 1947 – he raised nearly one thousand dollars for a class gift to the Alumni Association's Development Fund. Beyond their stated purposes, however, these parties connected people and inspired them to participate in university and community affairs. To this day, their tradition continues, with community members still using the Eagles' lakeside estate for events and special gatherings. His lifelong legacy was to encourage others to engage fully in their civic, academic and social lives.

In 1966, as he neared the end of his career, the Alma Mater Society presented him with the Great Trekker Award for his ongoing contributions to UBC and to the community. When he accepted the award, Eagles told the crowd, "This ceremony honors the five classes '22 to '26. No university that I know of owes as much to its student body as does The University of British Columbia."

The university awarded him with an honorary doctor of science degree two years later and when the Alumni Association established a volunteer category in its annual Achievement Awards in 1983, he was the first recipient. The award was also named for him in recognition of his lifetime of volunteer leadership.

After retiring, Eagles maintained a strong connection to the university by volunteering on the Alumni Association's heritage committee. After all, having lived through so many of the university's historical events, he had a unique understanding of the value of its preservation. To Eagles, the university was a special place; one to which he dedicated much of his life in order to create a university that students would be proud to call their own. ●

*“I’ve always had a personal interest in being more resource-conscious,”* says Bernice. “I’ve taken public transportation since grade school and my father worked for BC Hydro for 30 years, hence our strong family leaning towards energy conservation. However, when I started taking courses in sustainability through my MBA at Sauder my interest became official and I knew this was a field I wanted to pursue in my career.”

As the corporate sustainability specialist at BCAA, Bernice feels that she has the rare opportunity to live her values through her work. “I started out by educating the organization and employees about sustainability, and now I serve as an internal consultant for sustainability-related services in our various business lines and develop strategic frameworks for how BCAA will pursue its sustainability objectives.”

#### ALUMNA PROFILE: Bernice Paul, BSc’01, MBA’09

It may seem ironic that someone who works for the BCAA doesn’t drive to work, but for Bernice Paul, it’s just a small part of her sustainable lifestyle.

In 2009, Bernice looked to UBC Continuing Studies to further her knowledge in the management of sustainable corporate practices and enrolled in the Summer Institute in Sustainability. “I wanted to tap into the institute’s bright minds, such as Dr. William Rees and Dr. Brian Natrass,” she says.

The annual institute, offered in collaboration with the UBC Sustainability Office and the

University of Washington Extension, focuses on providing participants with a deeper understanding of the scientific, economic and social issues surrounding sustainability. “The people were outstanding,” says Bernice. “A group of us still stay in touch and throw ideas at one another about different topics in sustainability.”

Sharing knowledge with a group of peers is, after all, a resource-conscious way to learn.

# CONTINUING STUDIES AT UBC

#### ALUMNUS PROFILE: Alasdair Maughan, BA’02, LLB’05, MBA’07

Born and raised in Vancouver, Alasdair Maughan’s love of his hometown and university life led him to complete not one, but three degrees at UBC. He now teaches for UBC Continuing Studies.

*Alasdair says his transition from one degree to another flowed naturally as his interests developed in new directions.* “My initial goal when I entered law school was to practice criminal law, but then I got interested in international development. As I was finishing my degree, I realized that I needed to get some high-level business skills in order to manage the administrative side of international development projects. I actually ended up taking the GMAT

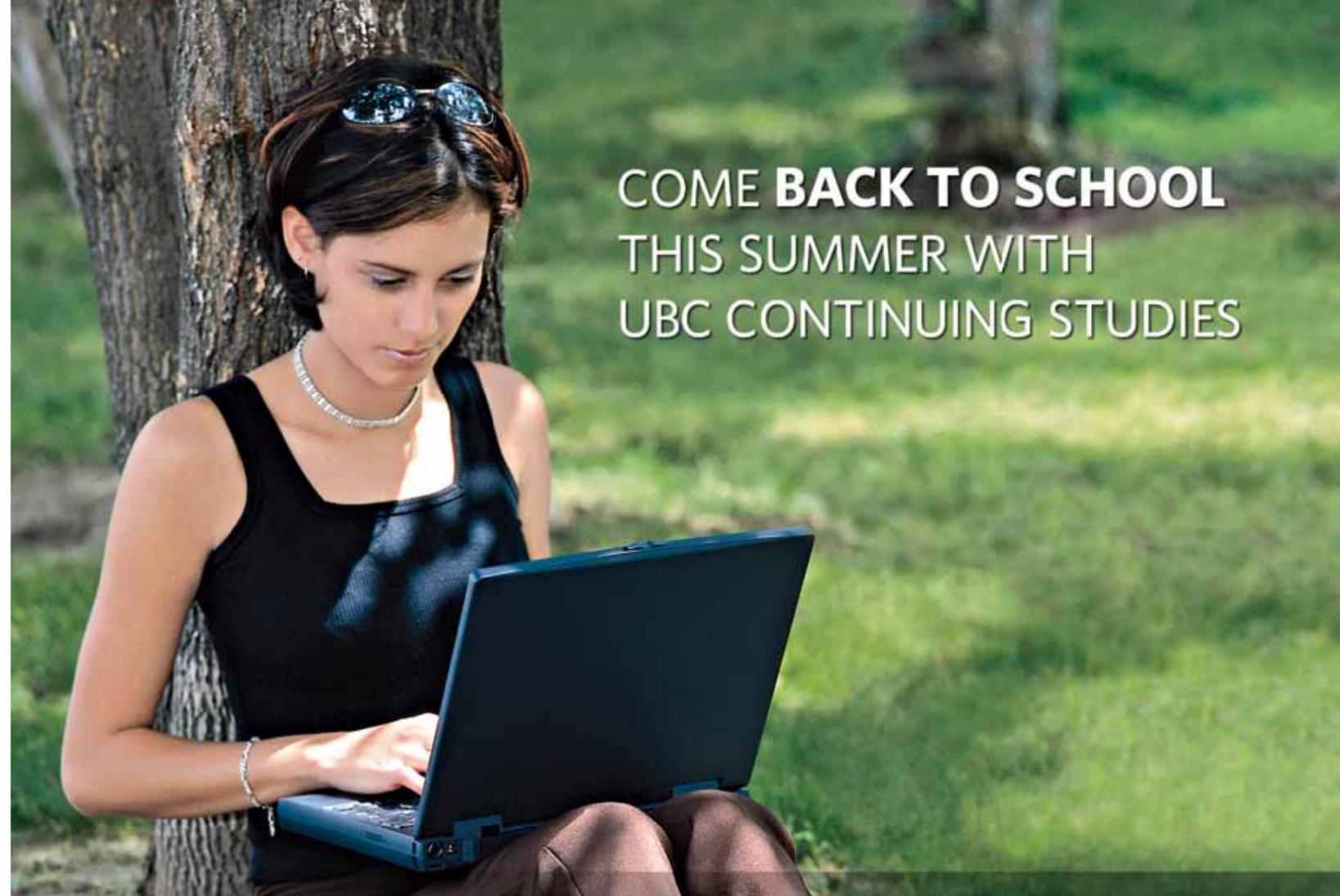
exam to enter business school between two law school finals.”

Alasdair graduated with an MBA from Sauder and currently works as a management consultant with Sierra Systems, where he helps clients identify opportunities and improve their business operations. However, the experience of condensed study sessions for the GMAT exam stuck with Alasdair and inspired him to think of strategies to optimize his time.

Now, in addition to his day job, Alasdair teaches GMAT and GRE test preparation courses through UBC Continuing Studies in the evenings and on weekends.

“A big part of my life before, during and after my years at UBC was teaching. I spent nine years in music education, beginning with teaching piano and ending with teaching courses in music theory, history and composition. I enjoy sharing and teaching, and I really enjoyed the challenge of standardized testing. I have always wanted to work with UBC, so when UBC Continuing Studies started its preparation program, I eagerly responded to the job posting.

“I enjoy the interaction with students and the ability to take away some of the mystery and fear from these exams,” Alasdair says. In the end, it’s also his way of giving back to UBC and sharing his knowledge with the next generation of students. ●



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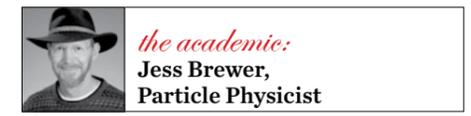
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# Academics and avocations

To succeed in academia you have to spend most of the time with your eyes stuck to a microscope or your nose buried in a musty book. But some of UBC's finest find time to indulge in some hobbies you may find surprising.

By HILARY FELDMAN



*the academic:*  
**Jess Brewer,**  
Particle Physicist

Jess Brewer is a high-energy kind of guy. His work as a particle physicist straddles the overlap with condensed matter physics. He works on muons, subatomic particles that are roughly equivalent to heavy electrons. At the TRIUMF particle physics facility, Brewer uses muon beams to study superconductors, muonium (an experimental atom), and other cryocrystals. Known as muon spin resonance ( $\mu\text{SR}$ ), this technique lets scientists look deep inside the atomic structure of any gas, liquid, or solid. Brewer is also a dedicated educator and teaches the enthusiastic learners in Science One. "My job is to introduce people to their own minds," says Brewer. "We assume that people know their own minds before they get to us, and that's just nonsense." Excited about introducing the wonders of physics to his students, Brewer combines a plain-spoken approach with the goal of sparking engaged learning. "I try to just be a good coach," he explains. The analogy is surprisingly apt.



*THE avocation:*  
**Competitive Hurdling**

Not one to sit around the lab, Brewer is a track and field athlete. He ran hurdles through high school, university, and graduate school. After moving to UBC, Brewer decided his youthful hurdling days were over. But the hiatus ended when, at 47, he discovered the Canadian Masters Athletic Association and enthusiastically resumed his passion. "For the first couple of years it was wonderful. It was like I was 16 again, because I was slow but I was getting faster every year," Brewer recalls. After two years back on the track, he sped his way to a personal best and first place in the 1996 North, Central American and Caribbean World Masters Championships.



*"Some people go to the gym to look good. Some people go to the gym to feel good. I go to the gym to be good. I want to be an athlete."*

An active and competitive person, Brewer prioritizes being fit and "viable." Outdoor hurdles are not for the weak of heart; they are run over a 300-metre course. Brewer now competes in the 60-64 age class, the narrow range allowing well-matched competitors. All participants are there for the sheer pursuit of excellence and doing their best. Several years ago, health problems led Brewer to step back from academia. Currently, he receives partial salary in exchange for four restorative months in sunny Mexico. After a busy and successful university career, Brewer is eagerly anticipating the next step. After retiring, he plans to train twice as hard. After all, as he says, "The problem is once you start accepting decline, what's going to stop it from turning into precipitous decline?" In Mexico, he trains daily with distance running and workouts to maintain his competitive edge. "Some people go to the gym to look good. Some people go to the gym to feel good. I go to the gym to be good. I want to be an athlete."



*the academic:*  
**Paul LeBlond,**  
Physical Oceanographer

An emeritus professor of Earth and Ocean Sciences, Paul LeBlond's research concerns waves of all kinds, from tides to tsunamis to large-scale planetary waves. After recognizing that changing physical oceanographic conditions are integrally linked to the health of fisheries, his focus broadened to include environmental and ecological issues. LeBlond is an original member of the Fisheries Resource Conservation Council for Atlantic Canada and recently stepped down as chair of the Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council, an independent body that tracks BC salmon stocks, habitat and ecosystems.



David Peters' recreation of a Cadborosaurus sighting near Point Grey.

**THE avocation:**  
Chasing Cryptids



LeBlond is well-known for another fascinating field: cryptozoology. Twenty years ago, he co-founded the British Columbia Scientific Cryptozoology Club, a group that investigates and researches animals not yet identified by science, known as cryptids.

Emphatically committed to a rigorous scientific approach, the group is not open to speculative pseudo-science. Their active fieldwork includes aquatic mega-serpents, out-of-place cameloids and felids, and the infamous sasquatch. Despite these flashy poster children of cryptozoology, new species of animals are scientifically described every year. Often these are small creatures like mice or insects, although larger marine animals are possible, given the elusive nature of known deep-water species.

Curiosity and an open mind brought LeBlond to this passion. His inspiration was John Green, known as Mr. Sasquatch (see *Trek Magazine* #25). A former journalist and publisher of the Agassiz-Harrison Advance newspaper, Green began investigating sasquatch sightings in 1957 and authored several books on the subject.

LeBlond, with his expertise in water movements, naturally gravitated to a local marine cryptid: "In the 1970s, Cadborosaurus

seemed like an interesting mystery," he says. Over the past 200 years, Cadborosaurus – often referred to as Caddy – has allegedly been sighted more than 300 times. There are still occasional reports and even recent video footage. The creature is described as a sea serpent with a long neck, elongated snout, small flippers and lobed tail. Sightings have been reported from Victoria to Vancouver. Cadboro Bay in Victoria is a frequent location, hence the name. Historically, various names have been used including Hiyitlik, Sisiutl, Saya-Ustih, Kaegyhil-Depgu'esk, and Sarah the Sea Hag. Other more distant sightings may be related as well: from Pal-Rai-Yuk of Alaska to Colossal Claude and the Yachats serpent of Washington, Oregon and California.

In 1995, LeBlond co-authored *Cadborosaurus: Survivor from the Deep*. It summarizes more than 20 years of researching sightings. That same year, the authors published a detailed description in the journal *Amphipacifica*, based on recovered photographs and eyewitness accounts along with some ideas about feeding and other behaviour.

While the scientific puzzle and academic aspects are intriguing, LeBlond also enjoys the human factor. For him, the broader questions include: How do you discover things? How do you interpret people's observations? Are there underlying physical explanations for phenomena? After decades of work, LeBlond remains unconvinced. "I am still very much in the same

place as when I started," he says, "but I am open to more evidence." Apart from a compilation of all the Cadborosaurus evidence to date, the other lasting legacy is public education. If nothing else, the possibility of a mysterious sea creature stirs up interest in knowing more about oceans and their role on the planet.



*the academic:*  
**Hermann Ziltener,**  
Glycobiologist

A professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, Hermann Ziltener studies one of science's last frontiers. Glycobiology focuses on sugars that attach to proteins and play very important cellular roles. Specialized enzymes add different sugars, and these additions are not genetically encoded. The possible sugar and location combinations are challenging to work out. This year Ziltener's group has made several important discoveries about how the immune system functions.

One exciting new direction focuses on the thymus. Each day, stem cells travel from the bone marrow to the thymus. They enter using a specific sugar key, then grow and become T-lymphocytes, specialized white blood cells that fight viruses and help other cells produce antibodies. After three weeks, mature white blood cells leave the thymus. Ziltener's group found that blood contains a counting mechanism to regulate the number of these T-lymphocytes. The research has promising potential for chemotherapy patients who suffer from severe immunosuppression during treatment. These patients cannot fight invading viruses and bacteria because their stem cells stop moving, so T-lymphocytes are not made. Finding the signal that opens the thymus and resumes stem cell movement could allow faster recovery for cancer patients and transplant recipients.

Ziltener's group also studies how T-lymphocytes travel to sites of inflammation. How do cells know where to go and when to stop? Sugar-protein complexes develop in the blood vessels of inflamed tissue, capturing T-lymphocytes where they are needed. Ziltener has found that this immune response to inflammation can be controlled by manipulating the necessary sugar-binding enzymes.

*THE avocation:*  
Mushroom Hunting



In some ways, glycobiology is similar to chasing elusive chanterelles: both are treasure hunts requiring a combination of expertise and luck. In mushroom season – August to October – Ziltener spends most weekends in the forest. Luckily his wife shares his interest. "It was always part of our culture, part of our upbringing," he says. In the Zilteners' native Switzerland, families mushroom-hunt regularly, passing knowledge from generation to generation. He learned the art of fungus foraging from his mother and aunt, the latter now 88 and still an avid connoisseur.

After long hours spent in the lab and behind a desk, mushroom hunting provides the perfect balance. The combination of fresh air and quiet forest is extremely relaxing. The Zilteners do both day and longer hikes, including four treks along the West Coast Trail on Vancouver Island.

Finding good edible mushrooms requires keen attention to clues like habitat and humidity, and Ziltener has developed a good



The spoils of Hermann Ziltener's mushroom hunt.

instinct for their location. Unfortunately many sites are threatened by logging. After clear-cutting destroys trees and soil, mushroom patches can take hundreds of years to recover.

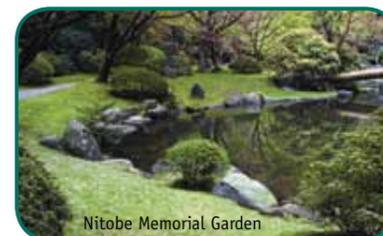
Although he is asked frequently about bears, Ziltener has had few encounters.

Mushroom habitat is not food-rich for bears and conversational noise warns most animals away. Getting lost is a more realistic danger, so he packs walkie-talkies and other gear. Accidental poisoning is another common concern, but Ziltener is very conservative and only collects mushrooms that he knows.

It's a labour of love. Ziltener sets out early in the morning, comes back wet and tired, then spends hours cleaning, slicing and preserving mushrooms, often finishing after midnight. He has never sold a mushroom, even with elusive pine mushrooms garnering one hundred dollars per pound. He has never thrown one away either. Excess mushrooms are shared with colleagues, traded, or preserved. Some are frozen, others dried, and Ziltener is pleased with the delicious results of a pickling technique he developed. Mushrooms are enjoyed in soups, stews, risotto, as side dishes, appetizers and in a Swiss specialty called *raclette*.

For mushroom enthusiasts Ziltener recommends the annual Vancouver Mycological Society show held at Van Dusen Gardens each October. ●

**UBC Botanical Garden & Nitobe Memorial Garden**  
two great reasons to come back to campus



Nitobe Memorial Garden

**Upcoming Events 2010**

Peter Wharton Memorial Lecture Apr. 17  
Earth Day Apr. 24  
Spring Festival & Plant Sale May 8  
Art in the Garden Aug. 7-8  
Indoor Plant Sale Sept. 16-17  
Apple Festival Oct. 16-17  
Boootiful Botany Halloween Oct. 30



NEW! Roseline Sturdy Amphitheatre

**Rental Spaces**

Weddings, meetings & special events at affordable rates. Facilities include indoor spaces for up to 120 people, beautiful meadows & lawns throughout the grounds, Nitobe Memorial Garden (now open for weddings), and our new 245 seat outdoor Roseline Sturdy Amphitheatre. Picture your next event here.



**ubcbotanicalgarden.org**

UBC Botanical Garden: 6804 SW Marine Drive, Vancouver 604-822-3928  
Nitobe: 1895 Lower Mall, Vancouver 604-822-6038



**Red Carpet Event of the Year**

**May 8, 2010**

Film Production Alumni Association  
and  
Alumni Affairs

Join Industry Partners and Film Friends  
from across Canada to celebrate

**THE BIG PICTURE**

40 Years of Filmmaking at UBC

Tickets & Trailer:  
[www.ubcfilmalumni.org](http://www.ubcfilmalumni.org)

# Getting Cultivated at UBC

With a history dating back almost a century, the UBC Botanical Garden and Centre for Plant Research is a haven for serious scientists, avid gardeners and carefree nature-lovers alike. It is open to the public year round, and on May 29 and 30 during Alumni Weekend (see pg 44) general admission and tours of the garden will be free of charge for alumni and friends. During these two days, you'll also be able to view the garden from the forest canopy on the popular Greenheart Canopy Walkway tour for 25 per cent off regular admission. Here is a selection of the rare and fascinating specimens to be found in the garden.



**Wollemia nobilis**  
**WOLLEMI PINE**

Until 1994, this species was found only in fossils dating back millions of years. Then a park ranger in Australia found a grove of them growing in a remote canyon in the Wollemi National Park. Botanists around the world were stunned; it was like finding a living *Tyrannosaurus rex*.



**Magnolia zenii**  
**ZEN'S MAGNOLIA**

This spectacular tree with fragrant spring blooms is considered critically endangered. In the wild it is only found on the north slopes of Mount Boa-hua in China. A natural disaster could wipe it out.



**Rhododendron fortunei**  
**'SIR CHARLES BUTLER'**

With one of the largest rhododendron collections in North America, the David C. Lam Asian Garden is a great setting for a spring walk. Blooms can be enjoyed from February to the end of May.

## Get involved at UBC Botanical Garden

UBC Botanical Garden is the oldest continuously operated university botanical garden in Canada. Volunteering and donating are two ways that you can get involved at the garden and stay connected to your alma mater.

As a non-profit the garden appreciates donations of all sizes, and gifts in kind. If you enjoy the outdoors, working with plants, learning about conservation and biodiversity, and meeting new people, you'd be a great fit for the garden's volunteer team.

For more information please visit [ubcbotanicalgarden.org](http://ubcbotanicalgarden.org), email [garden.volunteer@ubc.ca](mailto:garden.volunteer@ubc.ca), or call 604.822.3928.



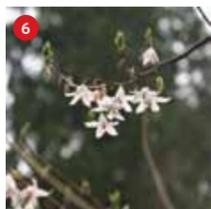
**Cardiocrinum giganteum**  
**GIANT HIMALAYAN LILY**

This native Himalayan plant has a stem towering six to 10 feet in the air and is covered with large and fragrant trumpet-shaped flowers. Taking seven years to bloom from seed, the plant dies after flowering.



**Inula magnifica**  
**SHOWY ELECAMPANE**

The mid-summer bold yellow flowers of showy elecampane provide a strong highlight among the many shades of green foliage found in the David C. Lam Asian Garden. Native to the Caucasus Mountains, showy elecampane is one of the few species in the garden from the westernmost parts of Asia.



**Melliodendron xylocarpum**  
**CHINESE PARASOL STYRAX**

The botanical name roughly translates to "woody fruited honey tree." A rare and precious tree from the southern provinces of China, melliodendron xylocarpum performs well at the Botanical Garden, with a rewarding spring profusion of large, yet dainty, pale pink blooms.



**ESPALIERED APPLES**

Espalier is the art of pruning fruit trees into beautiful shapes without sacrificing the harvest. UBC Botanical Garden has an extensive collection housed within the Food Garden. Come and see them covered in blooms this spring or come back in the autumn to see them covered with fruit. Or take a course and learn how to create your own (for more information on courses visit [www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org](http://www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org)).



**Lilium columbianum**  
**COLUMBIA LILY**

Columbia lily is one of many showy native plant species in the BC Native Garden. In the wild, this fragrant lily blooms from late May to early July but is seen in the garden in mid-June. First Nations often used the lily's peppery-tasting bulb as a food-flavouring.



**Scutellaria baicalensis**  
**BAIKAL SKULLCAP**

The Baikal Skullcap is an important herb used in traditional Chinese medicine (*huáng qín*). Modern studies indicate a possible use in the treatment of cancer. This beauty can be found in the Alpine Garden.



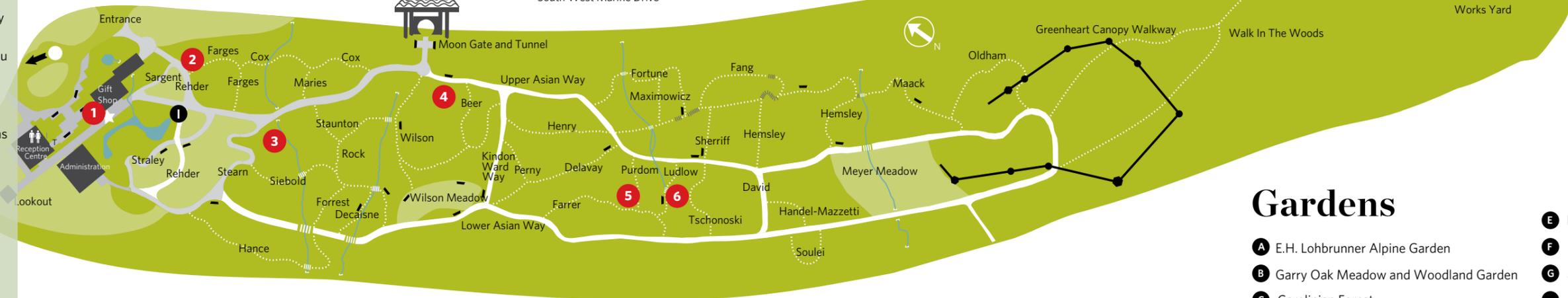
**Franklinia alatamaha**  
**FRANKLIN TREE**

Native to the southeastern US, this tree has been extinct in the wild since the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is prized for its large and fragrant white flowers, which appear in the summer months. It's also a delight when its leaves turn scarlet in the fall. Luckily you can come and visit one in the garden's Carolinian Forest.



**Camassia quamash**  
**CAMAS**

Camas bulbs carpet the Pacific Northwest Garry oak meadows in the spring, turning them into a sea of blue. The bulbs are edible, but the stunning blue star-shaped flowers are worth waiting for. This plant is located in the garden's replica of the endangered Garry Oak Ecosystem.



## Gardens

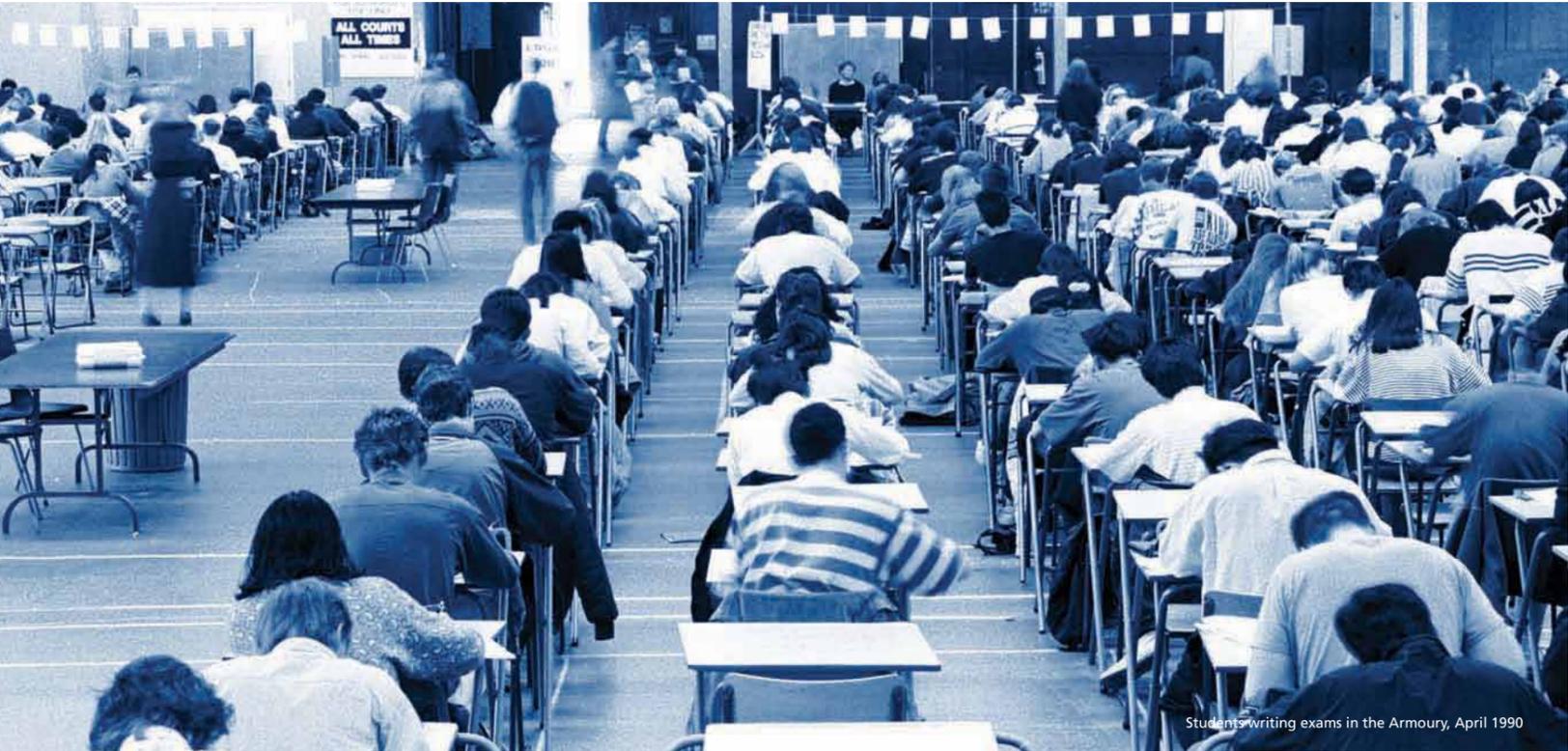
- A** E.H. Lohbrunner Alpine Garden
- B** Garry Oak Meadow and Woodland Garden
- C** Carolinian Forest
- D** Herbaceous Border
- E** Food Garden
- F** Physic Garden
- G** Arbour
- H** BC Native Garden
- I** David C. Lam Asian Garden





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Students writing exams in the Armoury, April 1990

Apply now for your University of British Columbia Alumni Association MasterCard and join more than 16,000 UBC alumni and students in supporting your Association.

Call 1-866-434-5393 for an Instant Decision and quote Priority Code BPFY Monday - Friday 8 am - 8 pm (Eastern Time). Visit [www.alumni.ubc.ca/rewards/mastercard.php](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/rewards/mastercard.php) for more information.



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# THE ADVOCATE: WES SHIELDS

Advocacy is one of the Alumni Association's core functions. Wesley Shields, LLB'89, is committed to leading the way.

By **MARK C. SOLLIS**



The new Kelowna Chamber of Commerce president has witnessed the power of pulling together a passionate group of leaders and community members, making a reasonable argument and bringing about change for the good of a community.

"I'm a firm believer if you want to make a difference you can," says Shields. "People need to seek the opportunities."

A couple of years ago, Shields and his Okanagan counterparts believed the Coquihalla Highway tolls were putting local businesses at an economic disadvantage and affecting small businesses and tourism in the area. Shields and his Chamber colleagues recognized that the usual expressions of dissatisfaction wouldn't be enough, so they put the wheels in motion to have the tolls removed completely. They conducted their own research and policy work and brought a cohesive perspective to the table.

"We looked at the numbers and found the highway had already paid for itself," says Shields. "We brought a business argument to the government."

"Now, I'm not saying our argument all on its own brought about the change. But, I'm sure it helped."

Shields, a lawyer with FH&P Lawyers, and a 20-year Okanagan resident, is now preparing priorities for his new role leading the second-largest business association in the province, next to the Vancouver Board of Trade.

"Ninety per cent of BC companies have 10 employees or fewer. People join organizations like ours seeking a voice, and we identify issues, work with companies large or small and seek consensus. Right now of primary interest for everyone is business development in the centre of Kelowna and how to manage the introduction of the HST."

Shields credits his law education for providing the analytical training so important to effective advocacy. As a barrister still undertaking courtroom work he is "used to asking tough questions to get people thinking." And, while he enjoys his share of healthy debate and discussing meaty issues around the boardroom table, he also values reaching out to learn more about challenges affecting society.

"Every day I see homeless people in Kelowna, I talk to them and understand more about what is going in their lives," says Shields. "If you sit on the side, you can't inform and affect change."

Advocacy is a critical role for an institution's

alumni. Through the Alumni Association's board and its Community and Government Engagement Committee, alumni are officially represented at political events and community discussions across the province. More broadly, individuals such as Shields are influencing policy and community direction in communities across BC and Canada.

With post-secondary education uniquely positioned to drive the province towards recovery from the economic challenges of the past couple of years, it will again be up to UBC alumni to talk about the tremendous impact UBC has on all aspects of our society. Well-established in the Lower Mainland, in 2010-11 the Association intends to strengthen its reach by establishing regional discussion groups in the Okanagan, Victoria and the Fraser Valley. Other regional groups will follow over the next few years.

"Giving back this way [advocacy], it's part of bringing better things to the community and offering some direction," says Shields. UBC and the communities we all support are better for it.

For more information on the Association's Community and Government Engagement efforts please contact Mark Sollis at 604.822.2586 or [mark.sollis@ubc.ca](mailto:mark.sollis@ubc.ca).

*Mark Sollis is director of Alumni Services at UBC Alumni Affairs.*



## Marie Earl took it up a notch... and then some.

*Colleagues come and go. But when some go, they leave a space that's hard to fill. The space Marie Earl has left is very big. In her five-year joint appointment as executive director of the Alumni Association and assoc. VP, Alumni, she has transformed alumni relations at UBC in a way few could have imagined when she arrived. She's leaving for new vistas, but before she goes we asked co-workers to pass on some comments about their experience with her. These are excerpts from the dozens we received, too many to print in full here.*

"Marie inspired those who worked for her and around her to buy into her vision. Her energetic yet calm, gentle yet businesslike manner made volunteering a pleasure. Goals were always clear, principles always guided actions, and everyone was encouraged and appreciated."

*Ian Robertson, BSc'86, BA'88, MA, MBA, Chair, UBC Alumni Association*

"Marie is the consummate professional. I have rarely met anyone so committed to and competent in any role. Her judgment is exceptional, and I admire her courage in wanting to rigorously measure the results of initiatives she promotes. Marie is also a truly fine person, with admirable values and great shopping sense!"

*Stephen Toope, President UBC*

It's fun to Google one's birth date and discover what famous (or infamous) people were born on the same day. My list includes Sandra Bullock, Robert Graves, Aldous Huxley, Mick Jagger, Carl Jung, Stanley Kubrick, Helen Mirren, and George Bernard Shaw.

But I'm much more pleased to share a birth date with someone whose talent, for the past two or so years, I've been able to observe, admire, learn from and benefit from at much closer quarters.

Who'd have figured that Marie Earl and I would have this in common? UBC's faculty, staff, students, friends, donors, and, most of all, alumni have been privileged to benefit from Marie's transformational talents over the past five years. But how many can claim the shared birth date?

*Barbara Miles, VP Development and Alumni Engagement*

"I was fortunate to work with Marie at the commencement of her new role at UBC. Marie served as a key catalyst in our quest to move forward with a stronger alumni/university relationship."

*Greg Clark, BCom'86, LLB'89, past president, UBC Alumni Association*

"Before Marie joined UBC, we used to speak of 'faculty, staff and students.' It's now commonplace to hear 'faculty, staff, students and alumni.' No small feat changing the mindset of an institution the size of UBC!"

*Heather McCaw, BCom'86, Assoc. VP, Development*

"Maybe it's her infectious enthusiasm that has a way of bubbling up every time she speaks... or maybe it's her unbridled passion for achieving positive change that permeates her actions... or perhaps it's the way she describes her vision for what people who joined her on the journey could expect to experience."

*Blake Hanna, MBA'82, Alumni Association Board of Directors*

"Marie's natural generosity gives spirit and meaning to her deeply held beliefs about the fundamental importance of relationships."

*Lisa Castle, Assoc. VP, Human Resources*

"Marie is the kind of leader who asks the toughest questions in the nicest way. Collaborative, caring and seemingly patient on the surface, but always driven to make a difference and move things forward."

*Drew Collier, CAO, Development and Alumni Affairs Engagement*

"I've had the opportunity to work with some amazing mentors so far in my career, but Marie tops the list. Her skill around coaching, her empathy around being human, and her laughter have made her a joy to work for."

*Liz King, BA'02, Senior Manager, National and International Events*

"Her vision and her actions will have a lasting impact. She was always thoughtful of others and a pleasure to work with. Marie is one of those exceptional people who has truly made a difference."

*Ernest Yee, BA'83, MA'87, Member, Board of Directors*

"... what Marie has taught me is the importance of small details. She never forgets to hand-write a card to express gratitude or bring in warm coffee cake for everyone to enjoy. Her unexpected thoughtfulness is what has left a lasting impression on me."

*Marisa Iuvancigh, Alumni Services Coordinator*

"Every now and then someone comes into our life who we cannot wait to be around. Marie is one of those people. She is smart, energetic, funny, passionate, engaging, compassionate and so much fun."

*Ian Cull, Assoc. VP Students, UBCO*

"People feel valued and respected, involved and included, when she's around. It makes them want to do more than they thought they would. What a rare and special gift she has to be an organized, magnificently competent, effective leader and manager, while always maintaining that authentic human connectedness that makes it all work."

*Sally Thorne, PhD, Director UBC School of Nursing*

"In the five years that I've know Marie, I've continued to be impressed with her work ethic, her drive, her commitment to UBC and its alumni and her tremendously modest way. Our Board had very high expectations for Marie. She has met and, in fact, exceeded all of them."

*Mark Mawhinney, BA'94, Member, Board of Directors*

"What you would always hear said about Marie is something like this: 'Look at what she accomplished in just one year at UBC.'"

As soon as you said it, and we all did, the penny dropped like an anvil and pushed up the discomfiting thought bubble: Marie's challenge dwarfs mine, and what the hell have I been doing in the last year?"

*Scott Macrae, BA'71, Executive Director, UBC Public Affairs*

## The perks of membership!



Alumni Affairs has established relationships with carefully selected companies to provide you with special deals on quality products and services. Help support alumni activities at UBC by participating in the following great programs:



### Wealth Management

The ClearSight program from Wellington West offers full service retirement planning including lower fees, professional advice and a wide selection of products.



### Home & Auto Insurance

TD Insurance Meloche Monnex home and auto insurance plans extend preferred group rates and specially designed features for our grads. Small-business and travel insurance is also available.



### Personal Insurance

Manulife Financial has served the alumni community for over twenty years, providing extended health and dental, term life and critical illness plans.



### UBC Alumni MasterCard

More than 17,000 alumni and students use their UBC Alumni Mastercard from MBNA which has low introductory rates, 24-hour customer support and no annual fees.

Visit [www.alumni.ubc.ca/rewards](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/rewards) for more information.

## GREAT TREKKER ALUMNI LUNCHEON IN TORONTO



**FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2010**

Four Seasons Hotel  
Regency Ballroom  
21 Avenue Road, Toronto

**11:30AM - 1:30PM (PROGRAM STARTS AT NOON)**

Alumni and friends: \$60  
Recent Graduates (grad years 2005-2009): \$45  
Table of 10: \$550

### How do universities drive cultural, economic and social development and increase our country's stature globally?

Honorary event chair, The Rt. Hon. John N. Turner PC, CC, BA'49, LLD'94, cordially invites you to the fourth annual Great Trekker Luncheon in Toronto. UBC President, Professor Stephen Toope will sit down with the Hon. Roy MacLaren, PC, BA'55, to discuss the role that strong post-secondary institutions can play in increasing Canada's influence internationally.

Great Trekker Award recipients John Turner BA'49, LLD'94, Alan Fotheringham BA'54 and the late Pierre Berton BA'41, DLit'85 met at UBC, and maintained strong ties in Toronto by establishing an annual event. We're continuing that tradition, with the Great Trekker Alumni Luncheon.

Join us for an afternoon of great conversation filled with wit and intellect. Make a new UBC alumni connection or re-establish an old one.

### REGISTRATION

For more information, contact Samantha Diamond at [samantha.diamond@ubc.ca](mailto:samantha.diamond@ubc.ca) or 1.800.883.3088.

Homecoming  
2010  
Sept. 18

UBC THUNDERBIRDS vs. UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA BISONS

Save The Date

ALUMNI UBC

# THE PLANET SUSTAINED FROM HERE.



Surrounded by beauty, it is no wonder innovative thinkers and doers at UBC are taking on towering environmental challenges. In 1997, UBC was the first university in Canada to make a commitment to sustainability. The community has extensively reduced campus emissions to below 1990 levels. And UBC professors and students came up with the concept of "our ecological footprint," launched the carbon offset company used by the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games, and are developing what may be the greenest building on Earth. It's part of our nature.

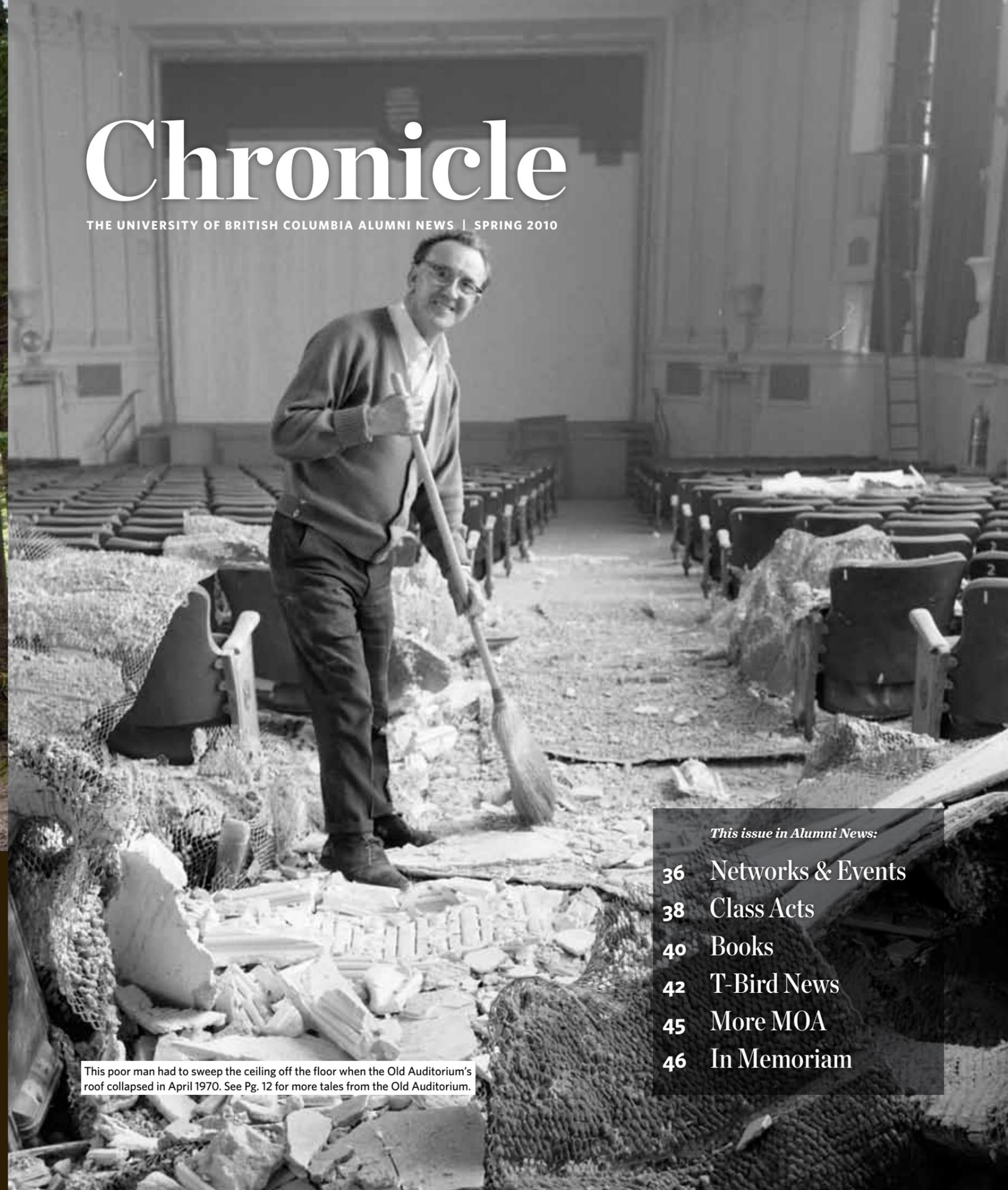
ubc.ca



a place of mind  
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

# Chronicle

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA ALUMNI NEWS | SPRING 2010



This poor man had to sweep the ceiling off the floor when the Old Auditorium's roof collapsed in April 1970. See Pg. 12 for more tales from the Old Auditorium.

*This issue in Alumni News:*

- 36 Networks & Events
- 38 Class Acts
- 40 Books
- 42 T-Bird News
- 45 More MOA
- 46 In Memoriam

## WE'RE EVERYWHERE

More than 252,000 graduates from UBC have spread to every corner of the world and populate more than 50 different networks worldwide. With so many active alumni, there is always something UBC happening somewhere in one of over 50 worldwidened networks. Below are some of the locations that hosted UBC alumni events in the last 3 months.



## REUNIONS



The Forestry Class of 1959 celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in August 2009 with a four-day program that included an evening welcoming reception, tour of campus, and two days at Malcolm Knapp Forest. It concluded with a tour of Stanley Park to view the results of the remediation work. Fifteen (still-handsome) grads participated out of the original class of '29.

## Class of 1950 Reunion

PART OF ALUMNI WEEKEND 2010

Thursday May 27, 2010  
11:30AM-2:00PM  
University Golf Club

**Visit [www.alumni.ubc.ca/events](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/events) for info.**

**Party at the Point.**

**ALUMNI WEEKEND 2010**

**MAY 28-30**

**Interested in planning a reunion or want to find out if there's a reunion coming up that you want to attend?**  
**Visit [www.alumni.ubc.ca/events/reunions](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/events/reunions) for more information.**

- Enjoyed a family theatre production of *The Monster Under the Bed* · Toronto
- Engaged in a provocative dialogue about advocacy and activism · Victoria and Vancouver
- Had Sunday brunch in Old Strathcona · Edmonton
- Learned about financial planning · Vancouver
- Discussed thought-provoking books at the Alumni Book Club · Vancouver
- Celebrated the Olympic Torch's arrival on campus · Vancouver
- Took a winter walk around Henderson Lake · Lethbridge
- Watched the Canucks take on the Senators · Ottawa
- Had lunch with ATB Financial President and CEO, Dave Mowat · Calgary
- Attended a symphonic performance at the New England Conservatory · Boston
- Discovered the secret of how to age successfully · Montreal
- Joined the Sauder Business Club for its annual holiday bash · Toronto
- Celebrated a year of excellence at UBC · Seoul
- Discussed how digital content impacts Canadian culture at a glitzy film festival · Whistler
- Found out how to profit from the current financial climate, over lunch · Toronto
- Learned how Canada prepared its athletes for the Winter Olympics · Calgary
- Attended a reception with the Canadian Consul General · Minneapolis
- Enjoyed a sunny brunch · Central Florida
- Decked the halls at the annual Christmas party · Hong Kong
- Discussed impacts of the Olympics on host cities · London
- Listened to a panel discussion about energy and sustainability · New York City

## FEATURED VOLUNTEER



**Nawaaz Nathoo BSc'06**  
Edmonton Alumni Network Representative

*What are you doing now?*

After completing my BSc in pharmacology, I moved to Edmonton where I am now in my final year of the MD program at the University of Alberta.

*What do you miss about UBC?*

The Rose Garden on campus was my favourite spot. With its breathtaking view of the mountains and Pacific Ocean, it was a serene place at any time of the year (and even better if the garden was in bloom). Whether I went there to study, relax, or meet up with friends, the Rose Garden always provided a beautiful space for reflection and contemplation and was a very memorable part of my UBC experience.

**Want to find out how you can get involved with your Alumni Association? Visit [www.alumni.ubc.ca/volunteer](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/volunteer) to find out what you can do. We are currently looking for volunteers for Alumni Weekend 2010, taking place May 28-30. Please contact Marisa Iuvancigh at [marisa.iuvancigh@ubc.ca](mailto:marisa.iuvancigh@ubc.ca) or 604.822.8917 for more information about this opportunity.**



Alumni Affairs' very own Marisa Iuvancigh was chosen to carry the Olympic torch on its way to Vancouver. She smiled and waved all the way through her five minutes of fame – an experience she will never forget.

## FEATURED NETWORK



**Great Trekker Lunch**  
Toronto · April 16, 2010



**All-Canada University Association Annual Event, featuring Opera 101**  
Washington, DC · April 24, 2010



**Alumni Weekend 2010**  
Vancouver · May 28-30, 2010



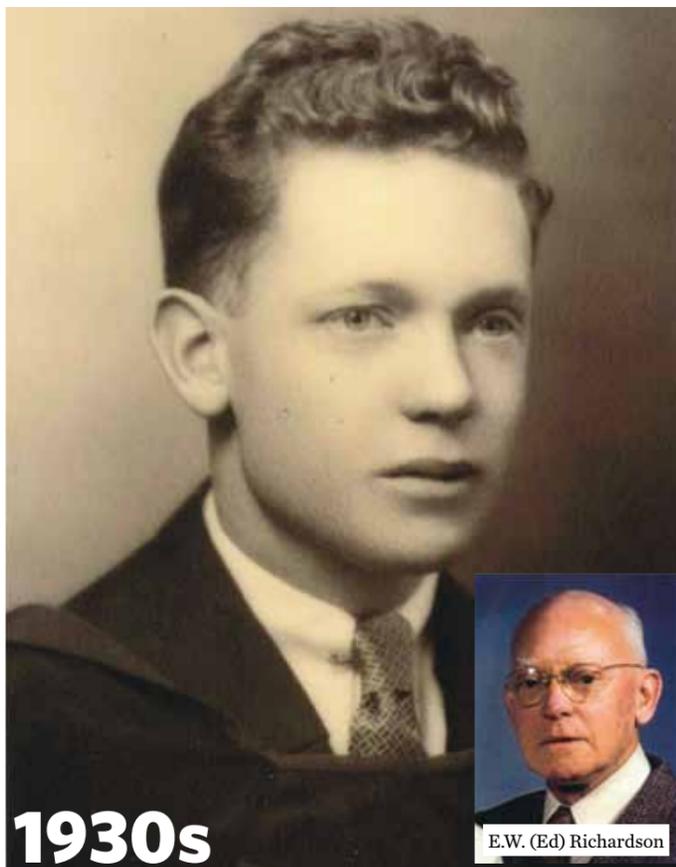
**Homecoming 2010**  
Vancouver · September 18, 2010

Visit [www.alumni.ubc.ca/events](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/events) to find out about upcoming events in your part of the world. To receive invitations, send your home and email addresses to [alumni.association@ubc.ca](mailto:alumni.association@ubc.ca).

**Start a network, join a network or find out what's happening in your area. Visit [www.alumni.ubc.ca/connect/networks](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/connect/networks) to find out everything you need to know about UBC alumni networks.**

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

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



### 1930s

On September 13, 2009, **E.W. (Ed) Richardson** BAsc'32 celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with a party at the Salmon House in West Vancouver attended by all four generations of his family and friends from all over North America. His wife, Mae, predeceased him in 1998, however, he continues to live in the family home in West Vancouver. Ed operated his own engineering and land surveying company for many years, retiring in 1975. Regrettably he has had to give up woodworking in his shop and his favorite sport - fly fishing with his son - but he still enjoys walking the seawall and is a frequent patron of the local library.

### 1960s

A former professional dancer, **Mary W. Spilsbury Ross** BA'63 is now a food writer, cooking instructor and artist. Doubleday published her book, *Frugal Feasts*. Visit her website at [www.mspilsburyross.com](http://www.mspilsburyross.com). She is second of three generations of UBC grads. Her father, Richard Hugh Spilsbury, was in the Great Trek of October 1922; her son Andrew earned his master's in occupational hygiene and in 2009 became manager of Health and Safety for the City of Vancouver. Daughter Meg Schmon (Ross) is a theatre graduate now freelancing as a costume designer for TV and film in Vancouver. (See *Tales from the Old Auditorium* in this issue for some of Mary's recollections of UBC).

Semi-retired **David Lynn** BEd'65, MA is the interim executive director of the Sheep River Health Trust. He had an exciting, challenging and rewarding career in education following his degrees. He's thankful for the education he received at UBC, which made this life possible. He spent 19 years as a teacher/counsellor, principal and superintendent in BC before accepting an assignment in Foothills School Division #38 south of Calgary. Just prior to retirement he was honoured by the Canadian Association of

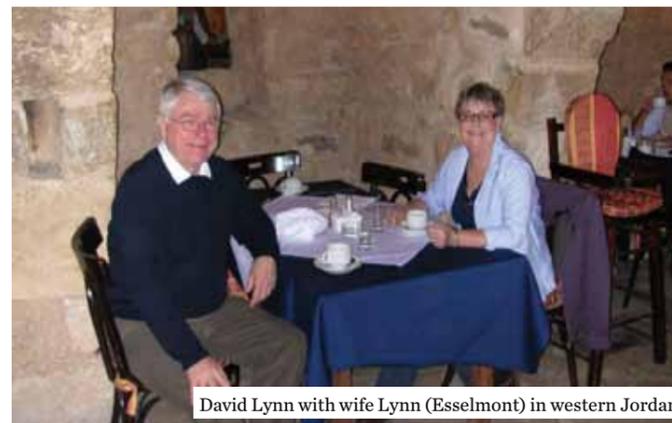


LEFT TO RIGHT: Richard Hugh Spilsbury, Mary W. Spilsbury Ross, Meg Schmon (Ross), Andrew Spilsbury

School Administrators receiving its 1999 Distinguished Service Award. After retiring as a superintendent of schools in Alberta, he worked in two international development projects: Kosovo (2001-2006) and Jordan (2009) and has taught at the University of Calgary.

### 1980s

Judge **John Milne** LLB'80 has been elected president of the Provincial Court Judges' Association. The Association represents provincial court judges in judicial compensation hearings, conducts continuing judicial education seminars and informs judges in matters of interest in the administration of justice generally. He sits in the northwest district (Smithers) and is a current member of Judicial Council. He is a past governor of the Law Foundation of BC, a former member of the Provincial Council of the Canadian Bar Association BC Branch, and is active in a local Rotary Club.



David Lynn with wife Lynn (Esselmont) in western Jordan



Raphael and Joachim



Ernest Yee

**Ernest Yee**, BA'83, MA'87, was proud to hoist the Olympic torch as it made its way to Vancouver for the opening ceremony. Ernest has served as a member-at-large on the Alumni Association Board of Directors since 2008. He is VP of Corporate Affairs at HSBC Bank Canada.

Lunapads International, a Vancouver-based eco-friendly feminine hygiene products company founded by **Suzanne Siemens** BCom'88 and Madeleine Shaw, received the Shining Light Award at the 2009 San Francisco Green Festival. After placing second for the People's Choice Green Business of the Year Award, Lunapads had received such a high volume of votes that award organizers decided to acknowledge them by creating the new award. The company estimates that one million disposable pads and tampons are diverted from landfills every month as a result of women using Lunapads.

### 1990s

**Yasmine S. Mehmet** LLB'90, a certified family law specialist, received the State Bar President's Award in the solo/small firm category for her pro bono work in family law in San Francisco.

In November 2009, **Derek Poteryko** MD'91 published *First You Smoked Now You Live*, a book to help people quit smoking. He also started a publishing company called mediatherapy books and made a stop smoking movie which can be viewed at [www.youtube.com/mediatherapy](http://www.youtube.com/mediatherapy).

**John T. Cu** BA'94 has become a partner at Hanson Bridgett LLP. As a litigator and trial lawyer, his practice has focused in the areas of business litigation, commercial transactions, intellectual property and product liability. John has represented a broad spectrum of clients, from Fortune 500 corporations to emerging companies, in a variety of industries including technology, banking, financial markets, automotive, healthcare and government.

Delcan has promoted **Michael Florendo** BAsc'98 to the position of water division business unit manager. His new role will see him leading Delcan's Calgary operation. He joined Delcan in 2005 and has

more than 10 years of experience in water resources planning, design and construction projects, for both private and public sector clients. His areas of expertise are urban drainage, storm water management, river hydraulics, flood management and municipal infrastructure planning and design.

### 2000s

**Adeline Chau** BSc'05 and Daniel Markarian are delighted to announce the birth of their first children, Raphael and Joachim, on August 17, 2009. Adeline and Daniel moved from Ottawa to Vancouver before their wedding last year.

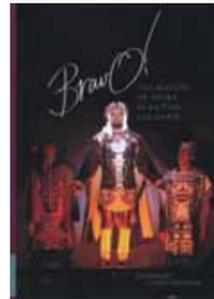
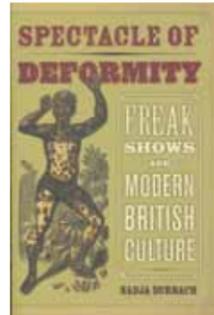
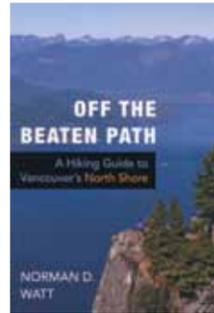
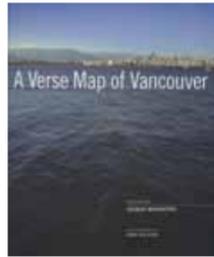
The first book by historian **Danielle Metcalfe-Chenail** MA '07 was recently published by Robin Brass Studio. *For the Love of Flying: the Story of Laurentian Air Services* has sold 1,000 copies in Canada and abroad and this "history of bush-flying in a nutshell" is getting rave reviews from aviation historians and general enthusiasts alike. Danielle currently lives in Wyoming, where she is working on a non-fiction history of aviation in Canada's north and a historical novel about a female bush pilot working in the 1930s and '40s. For more information, visit [www.laurentianstory.com](http://www.laurentianstory.com).

### Alumni Torch Bearers for the Olympics and Paralympics

(Apologies to any alumni we've inadvertently omitted.)

- Christina Anthony BCom'97
- Riann Batch BSc'03, BEd'05, MEd'09
- Alan Bates BSc'99, MD'08
- Janice Birch BHK'99
- Catherine Comben BA'67
- Sarah Evanzet BA'01
- Joy Fera BRE'72
- George Hungerford BA'65, LLB'68
- Patti Jackson BEd'76
- Katie Jeanes BHK'09
- Joseph Ka-Chun Tsang BAsc'02
- Richard Koo BA'96
- Thomas McLaughlin BSc'09
- Tracey McVicar BCom'90
- Monty Raisinghani BAsc'07
- Peggy Robinson BPE'72, BEd'74, MEd'89
- Ben Rutledge BCom'06
- Linda Schaumleffel BEd'73
- Morgan Tierney BA'08
- Anthony Wright BHK'08
- Thelma Wright BPE'73
- Ernest Yee BA'83, MA'87
- Amanda Yuen BA'09
- Lena Ling BEd'05

# Books



## 101 Albums That Changed Popular Music

Oxford University Press, \$21.95

**Chris Smith, UBC Creative Writing Adjunct Professor**

Everyone has their personal list of favourite albums, singers and guitarists, but with *101 Albums That Changed Popular Music*, Chris Smith delves deeper. His extensive recount of the last 60 years in popular music ponders the question “who made the music that made a difference?”

Sometimes the answers are obvious, sometimes not. For example, The Beatles’ *Sergeant Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band* sold millions of copies, received critical acclaim and influenced everything that came after it. But Smith contends that without the much lesser-known *The Weavers at Carnegie Hall*, the Sergeant Pepper’s album may never have happened.

While the effect of Michael Jackson’s *Thriller* on fashion, dance and pop culture was immediate and undeniable, Smith points out that significant musical (and social) impact doesn’t necessarily require commercial success. *Raw Power* by Iggy and the Stooges, for example, was barely noticed the year it was released but was later hailed by Kurt Cobain, who became the catalyst behind the grunge movement of the ’90s.

By focusing on impact over personal taste, Smith’s 101 choices transcend the subjectivity of a “best albums” list. This is a book for those who believe music is not only entertainment, but also a profoundly influential part of our culture.

Reviewed by Keith Leinweber, BDes

## A Verse Map of Vancouver

Anvil Press, \$45.00

**Edited by George McWhirter, MA’70  
Photos by Derek von Essen**

How can you distill a city’s story into a volume that is not only understood, but also felt by all who read it? Vancouver’s first poet laureate, George McWhirter, MA’70, has achieved precisely this with *A Verse Map of Vancouver*.

This beautifully-designed anthology pairs work from some of BC’s most beloved poets and writers with beguiling Vancouver imagery, providing undeniably authentic impressions of the city.

In “SkyTrain: Main and Terminal, 1983,” Madeleine Thien, BFA’97, MFA’01, writes:

*Another train will scoop, throw me up against strangers, set me down, staring at you. Are you staring at me or the woman I saw on the platform weeping her old life away, tracing and re-tracing flight, waving our passes at the wide-armed bridges, eyes open in the underground, thinking of mothers who kept to their day-in day-out, till-I-die cars, who sleep now below Patterson Station, where the graves run down to the river and look up at the rails?*

But as everyone who has lived in Vancouver knows, there is more to the city than these manifestations of urban bedlam. The interactions and conflicts between city, society and nature that define Vancouver can be seen everywhere, around every corner of the park and in every alley, even in the sky. In “Where the numbers meet the trees,” Leslie Timmins, BA’79, MFA’99, writes:

*Dogwood, fir, spruce – a forest interstice among house lots, where eagles, impossibly large, impossibly wide, skim north, and herons, pterodactyl-winged, float south across some undivided divide.*

Verse Map’s Vancouver is not Utopia, but neither is it the urban disaster critics often make it out to be. The truth lies somewhere in the middle, as it often does. Verse Map can be seen as an honest representation of a real city, with its stories, places, people and history remaining open to interpretation by all who read it.

## Bravo: The History of Opera in British Columbia

Harbour Publishing, \$34.95

**Rosemary Cunningham, BA’71, MLIS’74**

This first history of BC opera is a collection of more than a century’s worth of operatic stories and photography presented in an attractive, full-colour package. Published to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Vancouver Opera and 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Pacific Opera Victoria, *Bravo* covers everything that an opera-lover would want to know about opera in BC, including listings of past productions and information about performers.

From the earliest touring company shows to the modern productions staged by Vancouver Opera and other companies, the artistic and business aspects of BC’s opera scene have changed fantastically over the years and *Bravo* provides a detailed account.

Rosemary Cunningham is a long-time opera fan and season ticket holder for Vancouver Opera. After retiring as a librarian, she began a second career as a historical writer. This is her first book.

## Spectacle of Deformity: Freak Shows and Modern British Culture

University of California Press, \$39.95

**Nadja Durbach, BA’93**

This book provides a fascinating look at the historic role of the freak show in British society, popular from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> to early-20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Nadja Durbach argues that these exhibitions of people with deformities and uncommon physical appearances should not be seen strictly as exploitative, but also as a key step towards broader societal debates about the meaning of bodily differences.

While detailing cases such as Joseph Merrick (who became known as the Elephant Man), conjoined twins, and individuals with excessive hair growth, Durbach asserts that “freak shows” effectively reflected society’s physical, racial and sexual assumptions while exposing deviations from these accepted norms.

Nadja Durbach is associate professor of history at the University of Utah. She is also the author of *Bodily Matters: The Anti-Vaccination Movement in England, 1853-1907*.

## Cy Peck, VC: A Biography of a Legendary Canadian

CEF Books, \$22.95

**Edward Peck, BCom’49**

The extraordinary life of Cy Peck is described in a new biography written by his son, Edward. The book traces the path that took Cy from Hopewell Hill, NB, to New Westminster, to northern BC and the Klondike, and then to Europe at the onset of the Great War.

Despite being 20 years older than most of the new recruits arriving on the battlefield – he was 44 when he crossed the English Channel on April 24, 1915 – Peck quickly proved his value in the trenches. His bravery and strong leadership qualities carried him through three years on the front, where he fought in 10 major battles and was wounded twice.

In 1917, while still serving in the trenches, he was elected to Canada’s Parliament. The following year he won the Victoria Cross, the first sitting member of Parliament to be so honoured.

The biographer, Edward Peck, is Cy’s second son. He followed in his father’s footsteps, serving in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Canadian Scottish in WWII. He has since had a long career in labour relations.

## Off the Beaten Path: A Hiking Guide to Vancouver’s North Shore

Harbour Publishing, \$21.95

**Norman D. Watt, BSc’67, MBA’69**

Planning a hike this spring but don’t know where to start? Norman Watt’s new guide to the North Shore’s trails offers suggestions for hikers of all skill levels. With descriptions and maps for 31 trails in North and West Vancouver (and two in Pemberton) Watt’s guide is a great resource for anyone looking for a new path to follow.

The detailed descriptions and easy-to-read information boxes outlining each trail’s elevation gain, high point, seasons, hiking times and dog-friendliness, provide key details to help prospective hikers assess which trails are right for them. Sites of geographical and historical importance are also emphasized.

Having lived on the North Shore for 35 years, Watt has been able to inject a wealth of local knowledge into this handy and backpack-friendly guide. You may be familiar with his column, “Off the Beaten Path,” published in *The North Shore News*.

## Other Alumni Books

### Songs of the Wasteland

Resha Music Productions

**Renia Perel, BA’70, MA’78**

Part musical production, part memoir, this book/CD package serves as a memorial to Perel’s family and the millions of other Jewish people who were murdered in the Holocaust.

### Song Over Quiet Lake

Second Story Press, \$18.95

**Sarah Felix Burns, BA’00**

A story of inter-generational friendship from the author of the Northern Lit Award-winning *Jackfish, The Vanishing Village*.

### Four Russian Serf Narratives

University of Wisconsin Press, \$26.95

**John MacKay, BA’87**

A collection of autobiographies that draws from Russian serf experiences in the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

### After Peaches

Orca Book Publishers, \$7.95

**Michelle Mulder, BA’98, MA’00**

A novel for young readers with themes relating to immigration and the experiences of new Canadians.

### Trading Goals

Lorimer, \$8.95

**Trevor Kew, BA’03, BE’04**

Youth fiction about soccer, set in Vancouver.

### His Sweet Favour

ThistleDown Press, \$16.95

**Diane Tucker, BFA’87**

A coming-of-age novel set in Vancouver.

### Unofficial Wisdom: Selected Contributions to Feliciter 1995-2009

Canadian Library Association, \$29.95

**Guy Robertson, BA’76, MLS’81**

An educational and entertaining collection of articles on topics of interest to librarians and information specialists.

### Just One Vote: From Jim Walding’s Nomination to Constitutional Defeat

University of Manitoba Press

**Ian Stewart, BA’74**

A look at how a one-vote victory in a provincial party nomination led to the failure of the Meech Lake Accord. ●

## Music



## The Bad and the Beautiful iTromboni

If you wanted to form a musical quintet, you might not think about including a trombone. Unless you played one, of course. So, five trombone players got together and decided, “Why not a trombone quintet?”

iTromboni plays everything, from Hungarian folk tunes to “From Russia With Love.” With great verve. Visit [www.itromboni.com](http://www.itromboni.com) for tracks and info.

## Legendary Coach Mosher Retires from Pitch, But Not from Classroom

By BEN SCHACH

**After 24 seasons as one of the most successful soccer coaches in CIS history, Dick Mosher decides to step back from the pitch to focus on teaching.**

This fall, for the first time in 25 years, Dick Mosher will not be on the sidelines of a soccer pitch directing a championship-calibre UBC Thunderbird team to another successful season. But he will still be pursuing his other passion: teaching students in the School of Human Kinetics.

Coaching and teaching have been equally rewarding and important for Mosher. “My coaching program always had a three-pronged approach,” he says. “We tried to gain a measure of success on the field, coupled with academic success in an environment that promoted fun and enjoyment. I always believed that there was more to university life than only soccer and I’ve been lucky to be able to teach the last 24 years while coaching a group of unbelievable student-athletes.”

Mosher led the T-Bird men’s and women’s soccer teams to nine CIS Championships (14 medals total at the national level), 12 Canada West Championships, and an overall record of 202-38-48 during his time as a head coach.

He began his relationship with UBC in 1963, spending three years as a centre-forward with the T-Birds before moving on to the University of Oregon and later to Michigan State to pursue his PhD in human growth and motor development.

He returned to UBC in 1975 as a professor in the School of Physical Education. Mosher coached local Vancouver metro soccer teams for a decade before becoming head coach of the T-Bird men’s squad in 1986. He began coaching the women’s team in 1994, handing off the men’s to his son, Mike.

Quantifying Mosher’s success as a head coach is a challenging task. But for the 65 year-old “Dean of UBC Soccer” (as coined by *The Province’s* Marc Weber), impressive statistics are only a portion of what he set out to

achieve with his Thunderbird teams.

“My overall philosophy revolves around keeping things in perspective,” he says. “I’ve always believed that athletics should contribute to, but not dominate, the university’s main purpose – that of presenting the opportunity for a quality degree and preparing our student-athletes for the future. I’d be lying to you if I suggested that on-field success wasn’t important.

Winning a championship is something players will look back on for the rest of their lives. But it is also very satisfying to look at how many of our athletes achieved academic All-Canadian status, or who achieved great success in their careers after UBC.”

Mosher served as interim director of the Athletics department while the search was on to replace Bob Hindmarch, who retired in 1991. Mosher is also the long-time academic coordinator in charge of evaluating potential incoming student-athletes. He has helped hundreds of past, present and future T-Birds earn a place in a school with increasingly stringent academic standards.

He has also influenced some of UBC’s most successful coaches, such as Kevin Hanson (men’s basketball) and Hash Kanjee (women’s field hockey). Each came under Mosher’s tutelage as they earned their master’s degrees.

For all of the wins, titles, and accolades he has collected over the last 24 years, Mosher reiterates that there is more to life than just on-field success. “Honestly, I’ve always believed that winning is somewhat of a random event. A goal-post here or a great keeper save can make all the difference and that isn’t something you can really control.”

With such a philosophy about the outcome of the game of soccer, to what does Mosher attribute his success at UBC? His response focuses on, not surprisingly, the bigger picture.

“If you wake up in the morning and truly enjoy going to work, you’re a very lucky person. As trite as it sounds, I’m just that person. Working with highly motivated student-athletes and Human Kinetics students has been both exciting and tremendously rewarding. I count myself extremely lucky to have had so many great experiences.” ●

PHOTO: RICH LAM

## ROUNDUP

### T-Birds Women’s Volleyball Completes Perfect Season

The no. 1 ranked Thunderbirds capped off a perfect 2009-10 season (25-0) with their third straight CIS National Championship in February. Fifth-year standout Liz Cordonier was named CIS MVP, a CIS first-team All-Canadian, and CIS Championship MVP as she led UBC to a 3-1 victory over Manitoba in the final. Fourth-year Jen Hinze and third-year Kyla Richey also earned All-Canadian status. Graduating senior Claire Hanna collected CIS Libero of the Year honours with Doug Reimer earning his record-setting fifth CIS Coach of the Year Award to round out arguably the best season in CIS women’s volleyball history.

### Men’s basketball ‘Birds claim CIS silver; St. Pierre leads women to strong season

Men’s basketball had another outstanding season, claiming the silver medal at the CIS Final 8 after a 91-81 loss to Saskatchewan in the championship game. During the regular season they topped CIS with a 17-1 record and were ranked either no. 1 or no. 2 in the country the entire year. Star point guard Josh Whyte led UBC all season and was rewarded with CIS MVP and first-team All-Canadian honours after averaging 19.1 points, 4.9 rebounds, 4.2 assists, and 2.4 steals per game. Kevin Hanson took home his second CIS Coach of the Year award in his 10th season at the helm of the T-Birds.

In women’s basketball, Lia St. Pierre was recognized as a Canada West first-team all-star. The no. 10 ranked team in the CIS, the T-Birds lost a heartbreaking series (2-1) to the no. 8 ranked Alberta Pandas in the CW quarterfinals.

PHOTOS: RICH LAM

### Spring Sports Heating Up

T-Birds baseball began the 2010 season with their annual road trip through California during the final two weeks of February and carried over a hot start into conference play. The team, which was ranked #13 in the NAIA Coaches’ Preseason Poll, opened the season on a 16-3 run. UBC plays all of their home games on campus this season for the first time in program’s history at Thunderbird Park. They opened their home schedule in March and continue with four home series in April.

The T-Birds softball team kicked off their inaugural varsity season with a road trip to California in early February, a pair of trips to Oregon in March, and a doubleheader against SFU in Richmond. The first-year squad started their year with a 3-11 record.

The track and field season is also just around the corner for the T-Birds. They will be hosting their first-ever competition on campus this year at the newly minted Rashpal Dhillon Track and Field Oval. Their provincial rivals, the SFU Clan, will come to the Point Grey campus for a dual meet on April 25.

### Big Block Awards Banquet

Every year, the UBC Thunderbirds celebrate the best from the past and present at the Big Block Awards Banquet. This season’s gala is scheduled for April 13 with the yearly awards and hall of fame induction ceremony on tap as the major highlights. For ticket information, please contact Steve Tuckwood at [steve.tuckwood@ubc.ca](mailto:steve.tuckwood@ubc.ca) 604.822.1972. ●



Liz Cordonier



Katie Tyzuk



Josh White



Rashpal Dhillon Track and Field Oval





**ALUMNI WEEKEND 2010**  
**MAY 28-30**



University as it should be: Great lectures and seminars with no quizzes, tours of the best new (and old) haunts, athletic events, wine tastings and more. There's so much to see and do both on the Point Grey campus and in the community.

Thousands of alumni and friends flocked back to campus last year. Come join the party. Updates will be sent electronically, so make sure we have your email address. Contact us at [alumni.weekend@ubc.ca](mailto:alumni.weekend@ubc.ca), 604.827.3081 or 1.800.883.3088 for more information.

**A sampling of events...**

**Chemistry Magic Show**   
 Do you remember seeing a nail hammered with a frozen banana? Or the reaction of magnesium with CO<sub>2</sub>? Experience these wonders and more at the chemistry magic show. Come watch gummy bears burn and cotton explode. Have fun with liquid nitrogen. Experience slime like you've never experienced it before. Fun for the whole family!

**¿Cómo Se Dice ... En Español?**  
 Have you ever considered learning another language or travelling to the Caribbean, Mexico, Central America, South America or Spain? Maybe Spanish is the language for you. Join a one-hour beginner's level Spanish demo class and learn a little of this beautiful language in a fun and relaxing environment.

**Principles of Success: Changing the World One Step at a Time**  
 Join high performance athletes Steph Tait, BA'06, and Matt Hill as they recount their inspiring and motivational adventure Run for One Planet, a carbon neutral year-long run around the continent that aimed to inspire environmental action and raised more than \$120,000 for their Legacy Fund for Kids. Steph and Matt will explain their motto that "Small Steps Add Up" for environmental action and entrepreneurial success.

**The Phylomon Project: Where Pokemon meets Biodiversity**  
 Did you know 2010 is the International Year of Biodiversity? Come and discover why biodiversity is important in this day and age. You will also have the opportunity to hear about the recently launched Phylomon Project, an online initiative aimed at creating a Pokemon-like card resource that highlights biodiversity by using real creatures.

**Writing Short Fiction Workshop: Postcard Stories**  
 Write your own postcard story using elements of classic short fiction. Look at some published postcard stories from local writers, practice some writing exercises and then get started on writing your own short fiction.

**Tours**   
 Enjoy complimentary tours at many of UBC's main attractions including the Museum of Anthropology, Botanical Garden, Nitobe Garden, the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, UBC Farm and TRIUMF. Most tours will be offered several times throughout the day.

 = Kids will enjoy this event, too!

[www.alumni.ubc.ca](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca)

# MORE MOA

## Museum of Anthropology is Bigger and Better



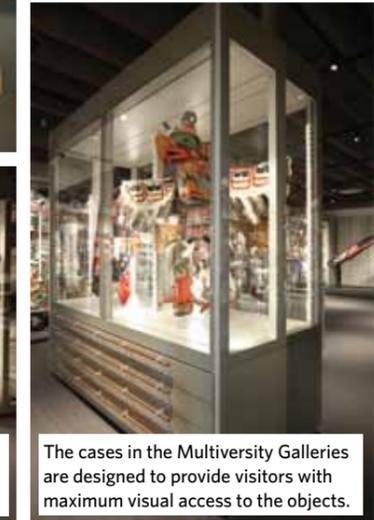
**LEFT:** This chair was designed by Noel Best of Stantec Architecture, the firm that worked with UBC, MOA, and the museum's original architect, the late Arthur Erickson, to complete the renovation and expansion. It is inspired by Northwest Coast bentwood boxes.



The Presentation Circle can accommodate up to 40 people for multimedia presentations, discussions, performances, and workshops.



MOA's Multiversity Galleries house more than 10,000 objects from around the world.



The cases in the Multiversity Galleries are designed to provide visitors with maximum visual access to the objects.



The Great Hall showcases monumental pieces by First Nations artists from along the coast of BC. New interpretive labels were developed in partnership with the originating communities.



The Audain Gallery will house both travelling exhibits and exhibits developed by the museum.



Large pieces such as canoes, bentwood boxes, and totem pole fragments are displayed on platforms.

UBC's Museum of Anthropology is world renowned for its spectacular northwest coast collections and hosts more than 170,000 visitors per year. It is frequently lauded for outstanding research initiatives and is well-regarded for its collaborative attitude towards cultural stakeholders, particularly local First Nations communities.

From humble beginnings in the basement of Main Library, MOA's 1976 move to the Arthur Erickson-designed facility on the cliffs of Point Grey marked the start of its rise to anthropological stardom. More than three decades later the museum has undergone another major transformation with the recent completion of a \$55 million upgrade.

The renovations have increased MOA by more than 50 per cent, enhanced its already-stunning architectural spaces and made collections more accessible. New additions include the 5,800 sq. ft. Audain Gallery, which will play host to temporary exhibitions; a wing to house the Centre for Cultural Research; and a community research suite with an oral language lab and a culturally-sensitive materials research room, providing researchers and community members with opportunities to interact with museum holdings that have never been accessible before now. A Reciprocal Research Network has been established to share MOA's collection digitally with First Nations communities and other museums.

If it has been a while since you visited MOA, it may be time to take a trip out to Point Grey. UBC Alumni Affairs will be offering tours of the museum during Alumni Weekend, May 28-30. ●

# in ~ MEMORIAM ~

## **Malcolm Hayden Hebb BA'31, DSc'63**

Malcolm Hayden Hebb, a gentleman of extraordinary genius, passed away peacefully at his home in Eustis, Florida, on August 11, 2009, at the age of 99. He was predeceased by his wife, Marion Evers Hebb. He was born in Marquette, Michigan, in 1910 and moved to Vancouver with his parents, the noted physicist Thomas Carlyle Hebb, after whom the Hebb Theatre at UBC was named, and Evelyn Hayden Hebb.

In 1931 he won the Governor General's Gold Medal in Arts and Science as head of the graduating class at UBC. In 1936 he graduated *summa cum laude* from Harvard with a PhD in physics. He was also the recipient of a Harvard travelling fellowship. With the award from the fellowship, Malcolm travelled abroad to Holland where he continued his studies in mathematical physics. Upon his return in 1938, he taught physics at Duke University, and during World War II he headed the Theory Group at the Harvard Underwater Sound Laboratory where he developed novel ideas in the new field of electroacoustics, which were applied to submarine detection.

Malcolm joined the General Electric research laboratory staff in 1949 and became manager of the GE physics research department in Schenectady, NY, in 1952. A brilliant mathematical physicist, he had many publications in the field of solid state physics. In the world of science, his insight and organizational skills were recognized by industry and government alike. He always liked to say that "freedom of inquiry is the very essence of research."

While at GE, Malcolm was also involved with research at the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory in Schenectady. In the 1950s, the Knolls' purpose was to conduct nuclear research and

development, including the design of a naval propulsion plant that would use nuclear energy rather than fossil fuel to power ships and submarines. In 1960, Malcolm was appointed to Eisenhower's President's Science Advisory Committee's ad hoc six-man Panel on Man-In-Space. The group was tasked with monitoring NASA's activities, including its manned space missions and goals concerning Mars and the Moon.

On November 1, 1963, the title and degree of doctor of science (*honoris causa*) was conferred upon Malcolm by UBC. He retired from GE in 1968 and he and his wife relocated to the warmer, sunnier climate of Lake County, Florida. Although he had no children, Uncle Malcolm, as he was fondly known to all, was surrounded by many adoring nieces, nephews, grand-niece and grand-nephews, all of whom are deeply saddened at the loss of such an exceptional and exceedingly generous person.



Zena Alice Swaab

## **Zena Alice Swaab (Urquhart) BA'36**

Zena was born in Vancouver just before Christmas in 1914. Her family was a rich blend of emigrants from the Scottish Highlands and the English West County. Her grandmother, Zenobia (through the generations, second daughters – like Zena – were always called Zenobia), was born in New Zealand in 1846, and at 16 married Edward Binney, a sailor. The family moved to Vancouver where Zena's mother Jesse, then 19, married Hector Urquhart in 1909.

Their marriage produced four children: Roie, Zena, Hec and Alec, who joined the RCAF at the outbreak of war and was killed when his plane crashed in 1942.

Zena was a notably clever girl, and took her BA at UBC in 1936. When war broke out three years later, she went to work at the British Air Commission in Washington, DC, and in 1946 moved to London where she worked initially at the UN Refugee Agency. It was then that she met someone a mutual friend pronounced would be her ideal soul mate. This was Jack Swaab, newly demobbed after nearly seven years war service in the western desert, Sicily and Europe. He, job-hunting, landed in advertising, while Zena moved to TCA, later Air Canada. They married in May, 1948, and (largely thanks to Zena's salary, which was larger than Jack's) were able to buy the little house in Wimbledon in which they spent some sixty years together.

Their early life in war-torn, austerity-ridden London was not easy. Jack twice contracted TB, and Zena herself underwent four miscarriages. But in 1955 their first son, Richard, was born and three years later Peter, their second. The boys both won major scholarships to Cambridge. Richard became deputy chairman of Britain's largest advertising agency. Peter lectured at Cambridge and London universities and is today a highly respected author of books on both literature and film.

Zena's abundant charm and warmth won her a wide circle of lifelong friends of all ages. She had an instinctive empathy with young people among whom her peculiarly Canadian chocolate chip cookies and brownies became legendary. She was an excellent bridge player and also a tireless charity worker for Oxfam, the Red Cross, and the British Legion.

In 2000, Zena was struck by the cruel ravages of dementia. She was cared for at home by her family, until July 2009 when her generous life ended peacefully in a South London hospital.

## **Frank J.E. Turner BA'39, BCom'39**

Almost 93 years old, Frank quietly passed on October 13, 2009, after a long life of achievement. While attending UBC, Frank played on the 1936/1937 national champion Thunderbirds basketball team that was inducted into both BC's and UBC's sports halls of fame. He worked for a number of years as secretary-manager of the UBC Alumni Association.

Between 1942 and 1955 Frank served in the Royal Canadian Navy Reserve, achieving the rank of lieutenant commander. From 1955 to 1980 he was a chartered life underwriter agent with London Life Insurance, often receiving Honor Club status.

Frank believed in Rotary and was a long-standing member of the Masonic Order and Gizeh Shrine. He enjoyed basketball, cricket, curling and boating and was an avid Lions and Canucks fan. In April 2008, he was predeceased by Doris, his loving wife of 65 years.

Frank by name, Frank by nature.

## **Sheilah Doreen Thompson (Hutchinson) BA'39, MED'64, DED'68**

Sheilah Doreen Thompson died peacefully on June 20, 2008, in the company of family and friends. She was an educator and an idealist who worked throughout her life for a more just and humane world.

Sheilah grew up and lived her life in North Vancouver. She graduated from North Van High, where she excelled as a scholar, athlete and student leader. At UBC, she majored in History and English and was active in the Letters Club and the Student Christian Movement. University opened up the world for her: it helped her define connections between

education and progress, between personal action and social change.

After graduation Sheilah worked for the YWCA organizing programs for young women. In 1941, she married James Swanson Thompson, a labour leader who served in the Royal Canadian Navy during the war. Daughters Sheilah Moreen (Allen), BA'64, DED'78 and Shannon Kathleen (Parker), BA'74, MED'77, MA'87 were born in 1943 and 1947 respectively.

In 1952 Sheilah trained at Vancouver Normal School and became a high school teacher, first in West Vancouver and then in North Vancouver, where she taught at Hamilton, Delbrook, and Handsworth schools. She was known as an inspiring History teacher and a sympathetic counsellor.

Sheilah continued her studies and in 1968 earned the first doctorate in educational psychology awarded by UBC. She was one of the founding faculty of Douglas College, serving as head of counselling and health services and was instrumental in establishing the nurses' training program. Seconded by the ministries of Health and Education, she travelled throughout the province assisting educational institutions with programs and curricula.

Sheilah was a committed Unitarian and played an active role in the Vancouver church. After retiring in 1981, she served for many years on the board of trustees including two terms as chairperson. Singing in the church choir that she helped establish gave her great joy. For many years she was a delegate to the Canadian Unitarian Council and the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Throughout her life, Sheilah spent time, energy and money on causes which promoted social justice and helped the disadvantaged. Among others, she supported groups who worked for nuclear disarmament, civil rights and the rights of women. At the age of 68, she traveled to Nicaragua and spent two weeks picking coffee in support of the Sandinistas. On her return, she raised money to establish a school in the village where she had stayed.

Although her life became restricted after she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, Sheilah's great spirit and generous heart remained with her to the end. She is greatly missed.



Andrew Seraphim



Sheilah Thompson

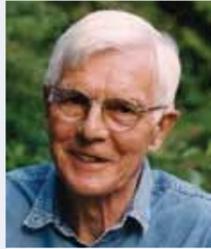
## **Andrew Francis Seraphim BAsc'45**

Andrew Francis Seraphim, born to Andrew and Madge (Brown) Seraphim on September 8, 1921, in Abbotsford, BC, died July 11, 2009, in Williamstown, NJ, just a month before he and wife Lu (Lucille Nielson) would have celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

Although Andy's degree was in mining engineering, his brilliance and adaptability led to a wide-ranging career that took him from Vancouver to Calgary, Montreal, the Maritimes and Philadelphia. He held leading roles in gold mining in Yellowknife, built the world's largest earth-filled dam in the Yukon, constructed Penstock at Bridge River, tunnelled under Ripple Rock to prepare for its removal as a navigational hazard, constructed the Massey Tunnel, constructed pipeline and railway in Alberta, worked on the St. Lawrence seaway, built heavy water plants in the Maritimes, Europe and Korea, and finally had ownership in a company specializing in preventing ecological disasters. He loved his work and did not retire until 2001 when he was 80.

Andy was appreciated by his family, friends and those with whom he worked for his exceptional patience, understanding, respect for others and ability to see the humour in all situations. He was known by all for his love of family, fishing, flowers and fun.

*We depend on friends and relatives for our In Memoriam materials. Please send obituaries of 400 words or less (submissions will be edited for length where necessary) to Mike Awmack at [michael.awmack@ubc.ca](mailto:michael.awmack@ubc.ca) or UBC Alumni Association, 6251 Cecil Green Park Road, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1. (Mail original photos or email high resolution scans – preferably 300 dpi.) Please note that Trek Magazine is also published online.*



C. Peter Jones



G. Barry Thompson

### **C. Peter Jones BA'47, BAsc'48**

C. Peter Jones was born in 1918 in Cirencester, England, moving to Canada with his parents so that his father Cyril could attend UBC (Fairview campus) to study engineering (BAsc'24). Growing up in North Vancouver and Victoria, young Peter enjoyed the outdoors and sports and was an outstanding scholar. He was accepted into the first class at Royal Roads in 1941 and soon after joined the RCNVR where he saw active duty as a gunnery officer on the North Atlantic and later in England. In Halifax, Peter met Eleanor and they married in April 1942. Once the war was over, they moved to Vancouver where Peter resumed his civil engineering studies at UBC, graduating at the top of his class in 1948.

In 1952, Peter was a founding partner of Read, Jones, Christoffersen and in 1978 he was the founding senior partner of Jones, Kwong, Kishi; both these firms remain vibrant contributors to the world of structural engineering to this day. In addition to his engineering work, Peter taught engineering in the School of Architecture at UBC for several years.

For all of his adult life, Peter gave countless hours of public service, beginning as a school trustee in North Vancouver (1958-1967). After moving to the neighbouring municipality, he was elected alderman and mayor of West Vancouver (1968-78). For many years he was active in the Unitarian Church, both in Vancouver and on the North Shore. Peter was also the inspiration behind the founding of Capilano College in 1968, and became its first board chair. On receiving university status, the now-Capilano University bestowed its first honorary degree on Peter in the fall of 2008. He was very interested in dispute resolution and qualified as a Chartered Arbitrator in 1988, spending almost 12 years working with the BC Arbitration and Mediation Institute. No one could be more fair-minded than he was.

In 1990, Peter began volunteering for the Palliative Care Unit at Lions' Gate Hospital and is remembered with fondness for his thoughtful and caring approach to patients.

In addition to all these activities, Peter loved the outdoors – hiking, skiing, Worlcombe Island – and shared many wonderful adventures during his long life with family and friends.

Peter is survived by his wife of 67 years, Eleanor, his sisters, Pamela Stone and Meg Parr, his five children, Penny BA'66 (George Pedersen BA'59), Stephen (Bev Boys), Christine Med'90 (David Millar BCom'73, MSc'75), Tim BPE'76, Med'91 (Jennifer BA'81) and Hugh MBA'87, and his eight grandchildren. There is a fine legacy of Jones family UBC graduates, which is being continued for a fourth generation by Cyril's great grandchildren and Peter's grandchildren, Alex Millar and Peter Jones, Emily Jones and Madelyn Jones.

Peter died peacefully at home in North Vancouver on September 30, 2009. He will be lovingly remembered as a gentleman and a gentle man. We all miss his wisdom, his curiosity, his humour and his love.

### **Gordon "Barry" Thompson BPE'49**

It is with profound sadness that the family of Professor G. Barry Thompson announce his death on Monday, June 29, 2009, in the palliative care unit of the Doctor Everett Chalmers Hospital in Fredericton.

Barry was born in 1927 in Britannia Beach, BC, but was really a mountain boy. His first 18 years were spent in the town site on the mountain above the beach. At 18 he left the mountain to attend UBC, where he recently returned to be honoured as a member of the first graduating class of the School of Human Kinetics, Physical Education and Recreation.

After graduation he worked with the Red Cross in Vancouver before attaining his master's degree at Springfield College in Massachusetts. He then worked at the YMCA in Hamilton before moving on to MacDonald High School and McGill, where he coached the swim team in 1955-56 and the victorious water polo team in 1956-57.

In 1959, at the invitation of John Meagher, Barry joined the University of New Brunswick to teach in the physical education department, eventually becoming director of the School of Physical Education and Kinesiology. He went on to serve 10 years as dean of students. He was one of the most beloved professors at the university.

Barry was active in many organizations (a list far too lengthy to mention) but was most proud of his role in developing the UNB and Fredericton Rowing clubs and constructing the Aquatic Centre, and of his participation in the establishment of the local walking trail. He also helped to establish the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton. The Fredericton Chamber of Commerce honoured him with the Distinguished Citizen Award for providing extraordinary service and leadership contributing to the quality of life in Fredericton. He also received the Rotary International Paul Harris Award for his humanity and furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations among peoples of the world.

Barry was an avid traveler and fine photographer and, with his curiosity, sense of humour, kindness and compassion, endeared himself to everyone he met, young or old. He was a father to every young person who needed one and his heart and home were always open. Adored by his family, friends, students and colleagues, he deserved the nickname "the good man" given him by the inhabitants of the small Greek village of Mystras, where he spent a sabbatical.

### **Douglas J. Baird BScA'50**

Born in Alberta to a pioneer livestock family, Douglas Baird moved to Fintry, BC, in 1920. In 1927 his family moved to Vancouver where his father took over operation of the stockyards for the public abattoir at the foot of Fraser Street. Douglas left high school in 1940 to work as a herdsman at Earls Court Farms in Lytton, where he stayed until joining the RCAF for pilot training in May 1941.

In May 1942 he graduated as a pilot and was initially posted overseas. His posting, however, was rescinded soon after and his flying career was put on hold. In 1943 he returned to the RCAF, going overseas in 1944 to train with the RAF before joining the Canadian 408 Squadron in Yorkshire, England. During one harrowing operation en route to Germany in 1945 his flight crew had to bail out due to an uncontrollable engine fire. Fortunately all seven crew members survived.

At the end of the European war, he switched from flying Halifax bombers to Lancasters to fly home en route to the Far East theatre. In July he married Dorothy Fraser in Vancouver and after marriage leave returned to his unit in Greenwood, NS. In August 1945, Japanese

hostilities ended and he returned to Vancouver for discharge.

During the winter of 1945-46, he operated a cattle feedlot for BC Livestock Co-op at the Fraser Street stockyard and in 1946 he rehabilitated the family ranch at Watson Bar, BC, before enrolling that September in the animal husbandry program at UBC. While at UBC he served as undergrad representative on the student council committee and took up summer employment with the City of Vancouver roads department. During the summers of 1948 and 1949 he started a dairy herd at North Bend, BC, and delivered raw milk from there to Boston Bar.

His daughter, Leslie, was born at VGH in 1950 and his second and third daughters, Louise and Laura, followed soon after. On graduating from UBC he joined the livestock division of the federal Department of Agriculture, working until 1970 in Regina and later in Toronto.

In 1964 he began farming 300-acre and 100-acre farms he had purchased within 27 miles of Ottawa. After resigning from his government position, he formed Hy-Cross Beef Breeders Ltd. and began importing Simmental, Limousin and other breeds of cattle from Europe for breeding.

Bypass heart surgery in 1975 slowed him up for a short time but he was active again by December of that year. In 1977 he sold Hy-Cross, although he remained a director for one year. A number of commercial livestock ventures followed until a second heart surgery in 1991 forced him to retire. In 1997 he and Dorothy returned to BC where they lived until his passing.

### **Bob Koch BScP'50**

On June 17, 2009, Bob "Bobby" Koch passed away in Royal Inland Hospital at the age of 87.

He was born at Mrs. Hesselgrave's Nursing Home in Irricana, AB, on January 12, 1922, the oldest of four children. As a young man growing up in Strathmore, AB, he fished, hunted and competed successfully in track and field, golf, and hockey. His parents owned the Strathmore Hotel where he was raised, his bedroom over the bar. Perhaps that is where the lifelong non-smoker discovered his love for the golden nectar.

In 1940, at the age of 18, he was recruited by the Calgary Stampeders Hockey Club, which had won the Allan Cup the previous year. Then came a stint with the Baltimore Orioles hockey team. During World War II he joined the RCAF and trained as

a wireless operator. At the conclusion of the war he joined the New Westminster Royals in the Pacific Coast Hockey League. The Chicago Blackhawks of the six-team NHL called, but Bob made the decision to seek an education instead.

While with the Royals, the shy redhead fell for the raven-haired beauty Betty, whom he married in 1948. They thoroughly enjoyed more than 59 years of "a great life" together until Betty's passing in 2007. They lived life to its fullest, loved, laughed, played, and worked hard with few, if any, regrets. The family truly believes that his passing is the result of a broken heart.

Bob studied pharmacy at UBC. He also starred as a right winger with the UBC Thunderbirds. In the 1950s, he and Betty worked and resided in New Westminster. He played golf out of the



R. Ross Johnson

Vancouver Golf and Country Club, where he won many tournaments including the New Westminster Amateur as well as the club championship. He also played a few more years for the Royals until the combination of working as a pharmacist and hockey injuries made life somewhat difficult.

In 1960 they made the fortuitous decision to move to Chase and open Chase Drugs, which later became People's Drug Mart. He worked six days a week for years and the odd good-weather day off caught him playing 18 holes or more. He was successful at more tournaments than you could yip a putt at, especially at Sunshore and Shuswap Lake Estates. In 1978 Bob and Betty

retired, allowing him time to enjoy 110-150 rounds of golf a year. Mixed in with this was dancing, curling, bowling, cross-country skiing and travelling. Good times were plenty at the Legion, the Clubhouse and friends' homes. He thought the world of the community of Chase and the surrounding area. He was a life member of the Elks and a 49-year member of the Legion Branch 107.

In 2000 the 1948-50 Thunderbirds hockey team was inducted into the UBC Sports Hall of Fame. In 2006 Bob became only the second hockey player in UBC history to receive the same honour.

### **R. Ross Johnson BSF'51**

Ross passed away peacefully on July 28, 2009. He was born in Kelowna but lived on the North Shore most of his life, attending North Star School and North Vancouver High. He served Canada with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, Canadian Artillery, in Canada, Holland, Germany and France. In Europe, he served with the 20<sup>th</sup> Battery, 2<sup>nd</sup> Antitank Regiment.

Ross was a member of Canadian Legion Branch #118. Upon returning to Canada, he attended UBC and graduated with a bachelor's degree in forestry. He worked in the forest industry for many years, initially in summer breaks with the BC Forest Service in Pender Harbour where he was assistant ranger and operated the "Cherry 2." He then worked for BC Forest Products and, for most of his career, L&K Lumber.

Ross' generosity and quality of giving himself to help others was legend. He was very active with Big Brothers, and was Akela in Scouting for 11 years at St. David's United Church. He often took groups of young people on study trips through the woods. A trip with Ross was amazing; you always learned something new.

Family was everything to Ross. He purchased property at Sakinaw Lake when he returned from overseas and built a family cabin that has been the joy of his life. He loved to be there with family around, enjoying the serenity of life in the outdoors. Ross loved to create, whether it was carpentry, working on his Model A, or gardening at his West Vancouver home.

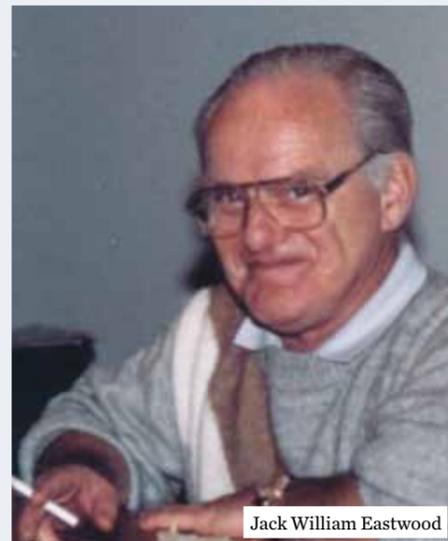
## *John (Jack) William Eastwood BSF'56*

Jack died peacefully on Thursday, May 7, 2009, at The Lodge at Broadmead in Victoria, BC. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Dorothy Jean Fay (McLeod), daughters May, Jane and Susan, granddaughters Anna and Caliya and his sister, Bernice Evans.

Jack was born in 1925 in Sooke, BC, moving shortly thereafter to Digby Island near Prince Rupert, where his father was a lighthouse keeper. At the age of 18, Jack enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force and several years later found himself living in a tent on a forward airfield in Normandy, arming Typhoon fighter/bombers and leaving his youth and part of his hearing behind in many airfields over the remaining months of WWII. He was a different person when he returned to Prince Rupert, soon finding a job with the Provincial Forest Service and working himself into an important position in administration.

By 1951 he had married Dorothy and moved to Vancouver to undertake another big challenge, the five year forestry program at UBC. There he met and bonded with another group of comrades, a motley collection of veterans, ex-loggers and high school graduates which grew naturally into a close knit team dedicated to surviving the program successfully with mind, body and sense of humour intact.

After graduation in 1956, Jack began his forestry career on Vancouver Island but soon became attracted to international forestry taking up long-term forest inventory and forest



Jack William Eastwood

development projects in Bangladesh, Malaysia and Ecuador for several Vancouver forestry consultants. This was followed by 10 years with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, working out of Rome on projects around the world, but mainly in Central and South America and Asia.

Jack, who achieved the status of an international expert in forest inventory and development, ended his career back in Vancouver working for several years as an associate with a major international company of forest consultants. He and Dorothy retired to their favourite spot on earth, Oak Bay, BC, and spent many happy years there, frequently communicating with old comrades and “smelling the roses.” Jack Eastwood is gone but not forgotten.

## *Jacqueline Sue Chapman BSN'58*

Jacqueline Sue Chapman succumbed to illness on July 9, 2009, at Lakeview Manor, Beaverton, ON. One of Canada's most noted nurse researchers, Jacque's doctoral studies led to care improvements in neonatal nurseries. She graduated from UBC and quickly advanced to head nurse roles and then to instructor positions at UBC and at several American universities. Jacque earned her MSN from Case Western University in Cleveland and PhD in Nursing from New York University. She became a professor at the University of Toronto.

Jacque was the first nurse in Canada to be awarded the prestigious National Health Research Scholar Award. She garnered many other honours including being named an American Nurses Foundation Scholar and invited to be a founding fellow of the Nightingale Society.

In retirement she became an active member of her church and community, sharing generously in the lives of those around her. She maintained a special passion for infants, children and education. She was an ardent traveler and enthusiast of the arts. She will be remembered and missed by many.

In Jacque's honour, please join UBC Nursing colleagues and friends in donating to the BSN Class of 1958 Bursary Fund, a lasting endowment to assist nursing students in financial need. Donations can be made by contacting Debbie Woo, Major Gifts Officer, at 604.822.6856 or debbie.woo@ubc.ca.

## *Maureen Patricia Marchak (Russell) BA'58, PhD'70*

In 1997, Pat Marchak could be seen in Buenos Aires in front of the Presidential Palace, interviewing the Madres de la Plaza de Mayo as they continued to seek justice for their children who were “disappeared” during the dirty war of the 1970s. In 2000, you could have seen her in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, as she interviewed survivors of the Pol Pot/Khmer Rouge regime that left nearly a million dead. Years earlier (1953-54), you would have seen her in her final year at Kitsilano High School as editor of *KHS Life*, the student newspaper. By then she had won some 60 swimming trophies and medals, many from distance competitions.

Pat entered UBC as a scholarship student in 1954 and *The Ubyyssey* became a second home. Distance swimming remained a passion and in June, 1955, Pat was determined to become the first person to conquer the Strait of Juan de Fuca between Victoria and Port Angeles – 18.3 miles in a straight line, but a gruelling swim of at least 25 miles because of the tides. After completing 20 miles, the tides turned against her and she was pulled out, protesting, about five miles short of her goal.

In addition to her BA studies, Pat enjoyed writing for *The Ubyyssey* and as editor-in-chief (1957-58), her curiosity ruffled some feathers not only at UBC but also in Victoria and Ottawa.

Pat's husband, Bill, accepted a Canadian government posting in Vienna, Austria, where they lived from 1958 to '62. Their children,



Patricia Marchak

Geordon and Lauren, were born there. This sojourn also represented Pat's earliest exposure to a state grappling with deep scars from the recent past.

Back in Canada, now a mother of two young sons, Pat gradually resumed studies and earned her PhD in Anthropology and Sociology in 1970. As a teacher and academic administrator, she progressed from instructor to professor (1980) and was head of the UBC Department of Anthropology and Sociology prior to becoming dean of UBC's Faculty of Arts for the period 1990-96. She served on many boards and committees and was a past president of the Canadian Anthropology and Sociology Association.

Between 1975 and 2008, Pat published 10 books, co-authored two and edited one. Her earlier works dealt with socioeconomic issues in the BC and global forest and fishing industries; later subjects included globalization, ideologies, resources and economic development, followed more recently by human rights issues in failed states.

Pat became a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1987 and was president of the Royal Society's Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences from 1998 to 2000. She was distinguished scholar in residence at the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies in 2000.

Pat passed away peacefully at VGH with her loving and devoted husband, Bill, by her side. On becoming aware of her terminal cancer, Pat requested that her family, friends and colleagues focus on how fortunate she had been to do what she loved, and how through her teaching, her research and her writing she had, hopefully, made some positive contributions.

## *Robert Thomas Carkner BPE'59*

It is with the heaviest of hearts that we announce the peaceful passing of Robert (Bob) Carkner on August 2, 2009. Born on October 10, 1935, he was taken too soon from his loving family.

Bob obtained his bachelor of physical education at UBC with postgraduate studies in counselling, and a master of education in administration at Western Washington State College. He had a full 35-year career, starting briefly in Vancouver as a teacher at David Thompson and Sir Charles Tupper and then counselling coordinator at Vancouver School Board. Most importantly, he was a high school principal for 22 years at Hugh Boyd, London, Steveston and Richmond secondary schools,

where he made a mark on many lives.

Bob was most noted for involvement in his profession and community. He belonged to numerous committees and was director of many of them. Board member assignments included G.F. Strong, BC Teachers Federation Global Education Project, Vancouver and District Athletic Association and involvement organizing a BC Space Symposium. He was the director of Richmond Partners in Community Conference, chairperson to Richmond's Science and Technology Awareness, as well as Richmond's Principals Association. Co-chairships included the School's Division of BC Children's Hospital Foundation.

Bob was an athlete and this was a huge part of who he was. He played rugby at UBC and as a teacher went on to coach New Zealand Shield and provincial champions at Sir Charles Tupper and David Thompson. Then came basketball. He coached for numerous years and implemented a “mini basketball” program in Richmond. He was the president of BC High School Boys Basketball Association, receiving many awards for his contributions to the sport. In 2009 he received an honorary life membership in BCHSBBA.

As a high school principal he was unique. He had a vision and developed many innovative practices. Examples of these included Student Leadership Conferences, the first ever Salmon Hatchery at Steveston High School, BC's first Pacific Rim course at Steveston, exchange programs with Japan and China, linkages with Casa Guatemala orphanage and the Lai Thieu Centre for the deaf in Vietnam and a Global Education Course at Richmond High. He implemented the first Advanced Placement Program in BC at Steveston and developed Space and Technology Education. Awards were numerous but most notable were the honorary Doctor of Laws degree from SFU for excellence in Educational Administration, the UBC Alumni Association Award of Distinction for Global Education, and the Order of Canada in recognition of educational initiatives and encouragement of humanitarianism in schools.

Of all Bob's accomplishments, his most cherished one was his family. He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. Bob was married to the love of his life, Nanette, and recently celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. He was adored by his three sons, three daughters-

in-law and his seven beautiful grandchildren. Bob's favourite place on earth was his cabin on Bowen Island where he and his family spent many wonderful summers and he was happiest.

## *Roger Kenwood St. John Col. (Ret.) BSF'69*

September 15, 2009, marked the loss of a great man, Roger Kenwood St. John. His passing was sudden and untimely.

Born May 26, 1944, in Vancouver, Roger was a devoted husband, father, grandpa (Poppy), friend and community member as well as a distinguished member of the military.

After graduating from UBC he began his military career with his first posting in Montreal. He went on to serve his country with true engineering spirit during tours across Canada and Europe as well as several UN peacekeeping missions in Cyprus, Pakistan, and Bosnia. His final posting in 1994 was as base commander of CFB Chilliwack, which he oversaw until its closure in 1998.

He concerned himself with the well-being of all those leaving the base and went above and beyond to ensure that each and every one was taken care of. He was a soldier's soldier and had a career filled with integrity and distinction including receiving the Order of Military Merit. He was also a citizen's soldier as shown by the honorary Citizen of the Year award he received from the City of Calgary in 1987, in recognition of the instrumental role he played in creating the Calgary Centennial Arena and the Calgary Military Museum. The award stated that Roger “emerged as a model of good citizenship, forging a relationship between the citizens of Calgary and the members of CFB Calgary” and that “his community spirit would go with him wherever his career took him.”

This proved to be true. After his retirement, Roger enthusiastically involved himself in the community of Chilliwack, giving his time, energy and passion to many organizations including Rotary, Community Services, Chilliwack Hospice Society, BC Children's Hospital and Big Brothers. Again his enormous efforts were recognized when he was named a Paul Harris Fellow by Rotary International.

Most recently Roger was greatly honoured by an appointment as Colonel Commandant of the Canadian Military Engineers. He was passionate about the engineers and took his duties very seriously. He thoroughly enjoyed reconnecting

with a new generation of engineers and spoke often of his pride in their accomplishments.

As involved with the community and military services as he was, Roger always made time for those he loved most: his family and friends. He enjoyed fishing, spending time at his beloved cabin, travelling and creating adventures. He was looking forward to doing all these things with his grandsons and seeing the men they would grow into.

In hindsight, we know we are all fortunate Roger was an avid story teller. Those who were lucky to hear him telling tales, at times humorously long-winded, can now cherish them and keep his memory alive with their retelling.

He leaves behind many friends and colleagues who will miss him dearly. A painful empty space is left in the hearts of his family. Our only consolation comes from knowing, as a dear friend pointed out, “he was a happy and fulfilled man who was loved by all who knew him. He bypassed no opportunities and always followed his heart.”

### Frances M. Esson BA’71, MEd’78

Fran was born and raised near Rosetown, SK. She died in White Rock, BC, on June 5, 2009, just three months short of her 94<sup>th</sup> birthday. She moved to Vancouver in the early 1940s, establishing a residence in the West End where she lived for more than 65 years. She was an independent woman, never marrying, and she was a genuine role model for the next generation. She started work during the war years in the federal department of Employment and Immigration. She was the only woman to maintain a position once the soldiers began returning home and she worked her way up until she retired in 1978, ending her career as a section supervisor. Fran was involved in the hiring of the initial executive staff of ICBC in 1973, a highlight of her long career.

Her desire to achieve a university degree led to the start of her studies in 1958. She began night classes and summer classes, all the while working for Manpower. She received her master of education (adult education) in 1978, the year she retired. She then put that knowledge to use by becoming an active member of the Federal Superannuates National Association, working with them until she was into her 80s.

Fran made many friends during her years in Vancouver as she was active in numerous

organizations and maintained close relations with her siblings and their families. Fran’s legacy to her family is the memory of her ever-present joy and unbridled enthusiasm for life.

### Philip Perry BEd’72, MEd’73

Born in England in 1934, Phil migrated to Australia with his parents and brothers while still a child. He, in turn, migrated to Canada with Rowena and their three young children in 1968, having become frustrated by teaching and learning conditions in Australian schools at that time. In Vancouver, he determinedly studied for both bachelor and master’s degrees while teaching in Delta School District. His work in art education (he served three terms as president of the BC Art Teachers’ Association) resulted in his eventual secondment to UBC. He always valued the welcoming assistance and friendship he received from many Canadians, not least his colleagues in education and art and those at UBC. He firmly believed that their encouragement, support and friendship helped him achieve greater self-confidence and self-understanding.

Phil returned to Australia, as a Canadian citizen, with his family in 1975 to take up an appointment at the State College of Victoria. This was soon to become part of Monash University, where his career included directorships of graduate courses in both art education and teacher education. He undertook his PhD at the University of Washington, graduating in 1981, with cognitive dissonance the subject of his

dissertation. He was also granted leave to take up guest lectureships for extensive periods at universities and colleges in Seattle, Oxford, St. Petersburg (Russia) and Suzhou (China).

One of Phil’s life-time goals was to try to foster links between people. Ever the internationalist, he took several groups of trainees to Canada to complete their teaching practicums. He actively sought to enrol overseas students in his graduate courses and often managed to secure short term teaching appointments or lecture tours in Australia for colleagues from Canada, the US, the UK, China and Russia. During his retirement – or “beginment,” as Phil liked to call it – he and Rowena organized and led cultural and educational tours to China, with the assistance of his friends and colleagues at Suzhou University.

Phil served for many years as a world councillor of the International Society for Education through Art; as president, and later, honorary life member, of the Australian Institute of Art Education (now Art Education Australia); and as a visual arts examiner with the International Baccalaureate organization. Soon after his retirement, Monash’s faculty of art and design appointed him an honorary research fellow in its department of fine arts.

### Julian Charles Bradley BA’73

Julian Bradley, age 56, died November 15, 2007, following a battle with colon cancer.

He was raised in London, where he developed a life-long passion for books, music and

high-performance cars. On completing secondary school, he won a scholarship for university from the Drapers’ Guild. He chose to study economics at UBC.

During his four years at UBC, Julian made many good friends. He was popular with fellow students, with his different accent, contagious happy-go-lucky, carefree attitude, and long flowing hair. He was also remarkable for his intelligence and instant grasp of the underlying principles and their ramifications in his courses. He would later be accepted into Mensa with a tested IQ of 156.

After returning to London, he secured a position in accounting with Gallaher Tobacco, where he stayed for 23 years. Julian’s work with Gallaher took him to various company locations and subsidiaries throughout the UK and to others on the continent. Latterly, mostly as an internal computer auditor, he was responsible for managing both staff and significant projects for the firm from the head office in Surrey.

Throughout his working life, Julian maintained a keen interest in philosophical, metaphysical and spiritual matters, using his spare time to explore different traditions and teachers, as well as to keep abreast of advances in science, particularly quantum physics. Along with friends, he formed a society called The Escape Committee, which met at various frequencies over many years to discuss and share insights on life’s meaning and purpose. Its only rule was that there are no rules.

He continued with these interests after stopping work in 1997. Latterly, he bought a share in The Tiger Inn pub near his parents’ rural home in Kent, a sailing boat with friends, and an Italian sports car.

Julian appreciated how precious true friendship is, and he cared deeply about his friends and family. He was always there for friends when they needed help.

His intelligence and depth of insight allowed him to see beyond the veil of what most consider everyday normal life. He realised that many live their lives doing the right things for the wrong reasons – conforming and living the way they think others feel they should live – and he refused to do this, always staying true to himself. He was legendary for preferring to leave things undone, rather than to do them for the wrong reasons. He was well known, too, for his wit,

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Philip Perry

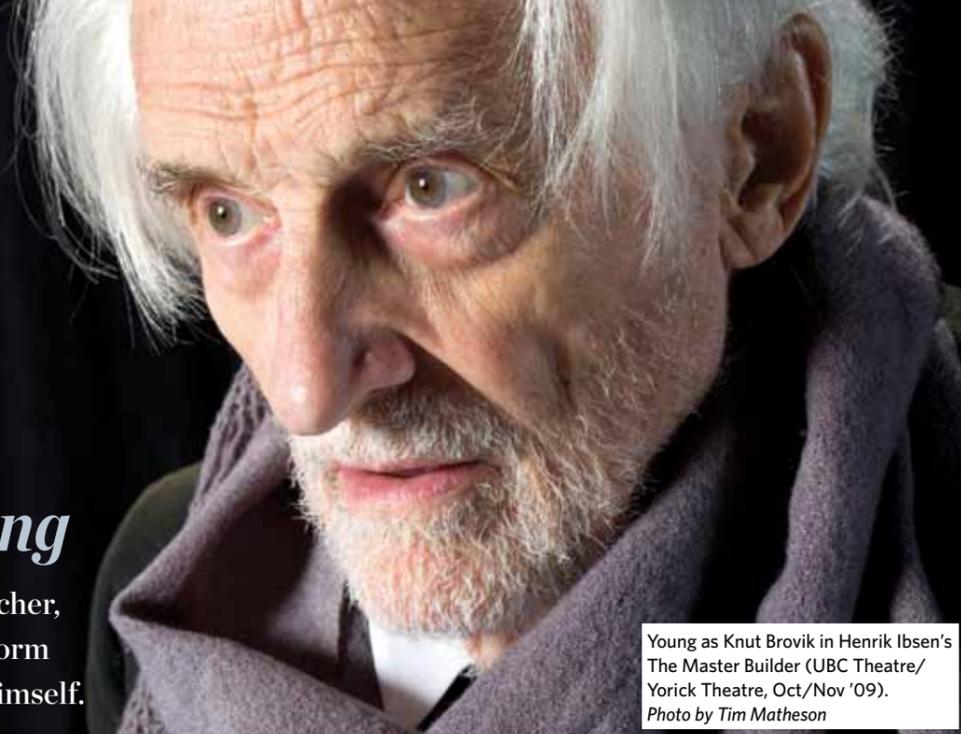


Julian Bradley

# THE LAST WORD

## with Norm Young

Actor, director, raconteur, teacher, joker: it's hard to know how Norm Young, BA'52 might describe himself.



Young as Knut Brovik in Henrik Ibsen's *The Master Builder* (UBC Theatre/Yorick Theatre, Oct/Nov '09). Photo by Tim Matheson

Norm Young came to UBC to study law, but was diverted by fate and studied English and history instead. He was president of the Players' Club, and his antics and performances make up the stuff of legend. After graduation he went on to work in TV and theatre, then returned to UBC to join the new department of Theatre in 1961, where he was a member of faculty for 30 years. Norm has a burning love for UBC and the Theatre department to this day, and is still a familiar face around campus. He and his friend, the late Norm Watt, received the Alumni Association's Lifetime Achievement Award in 1999.

The two Norms, as they were called, were famous for their professional antics, including the annual World's Worst Original Oil Painting Exhibition and Auction (WOOPEA) that sold off some truly ugly works of art, and an annual croquet tournament set on the UBC President's lawn – both of which raised money for charitable causes.

### Who was your childhood hero?

My Uncle Jack. He died at Cassino in WWII.

### Describe the place you most like to spend time.

Anywhere on the UBC campus, London or Tuscany (pretty similar places).

### What was the last thing you read?

It was a re-read of Ezra Pound's *Cantos*.

### What or who makes you laugh out loud?

Chaplin, Keaton, Lloyd, and the ineptness of the acting of the four Baldwin brothers.

### What's the most important lesson you ever learned?

If it needs to be done, do it now, because you won't do it later.

### What's your idea of the perfect day?

My wife, Maida, is in Cuba. I'm up at 5:00am and read *The Vancouver Sun* and *The Province's* sports pages. I watch a musical, mystery or gangster movie on TCM. I cut out the day's quota of typos and caption boobs from *The Sun* and mail them to Patricia Graham, the editor. I have lunch at the Argo and play golf at Country Meadows. Karen Barnaby cooks dinner. I win at duplicate bridge, despite partnering with Mike Ryan. Joy Coghill doesn't call and the Canucks lose.

### What was your nickname at school?

Lemo.

### What would the title of your biography be?

What a Waste.

### If a genie granted you one wish, what would it be?

To win the Miss America contest so we could have world peace. Or to control the entire capital of a large Swiss bank in order to form a foundation and provide chairs and scholarships for the humanities at UBC.

### What item have you owned for the longest time?

My alphabet baby plate. My mother insisted on keeping it until I was 35, and in defiance I started a collection (now comprising about 200 pieces).

### What is your latest purchase?

A 45 RPM of *Do the Freddie* by Freddie and the Dreamers.

### Who do you most admire (living or dead) and why?

Homer Thompson, a boy from Rosedale who became one of the world's foremost archaeologists. He went to UBC and ended up at the Princeton Institute while contributing heavily to his field.

### What would you like your epitaph to say?

He could have done anything, but he was lazy.

### What is your most prized possession?

A 1928 Olympic poster signed by Percy Williams and Frank Grainger.

### If you could invent something, what would it be?

A selective time machine.

### In which era would you most like to have lived, and why?

I've thoroughly enjoyed the ones I've lived through, but I think I would have loved the Roaring Twenties as an adult.

### What are you afraid of?

Caves, mines, and living so long that all my friends have gone.

### Name the skill or talent you would most like to have.

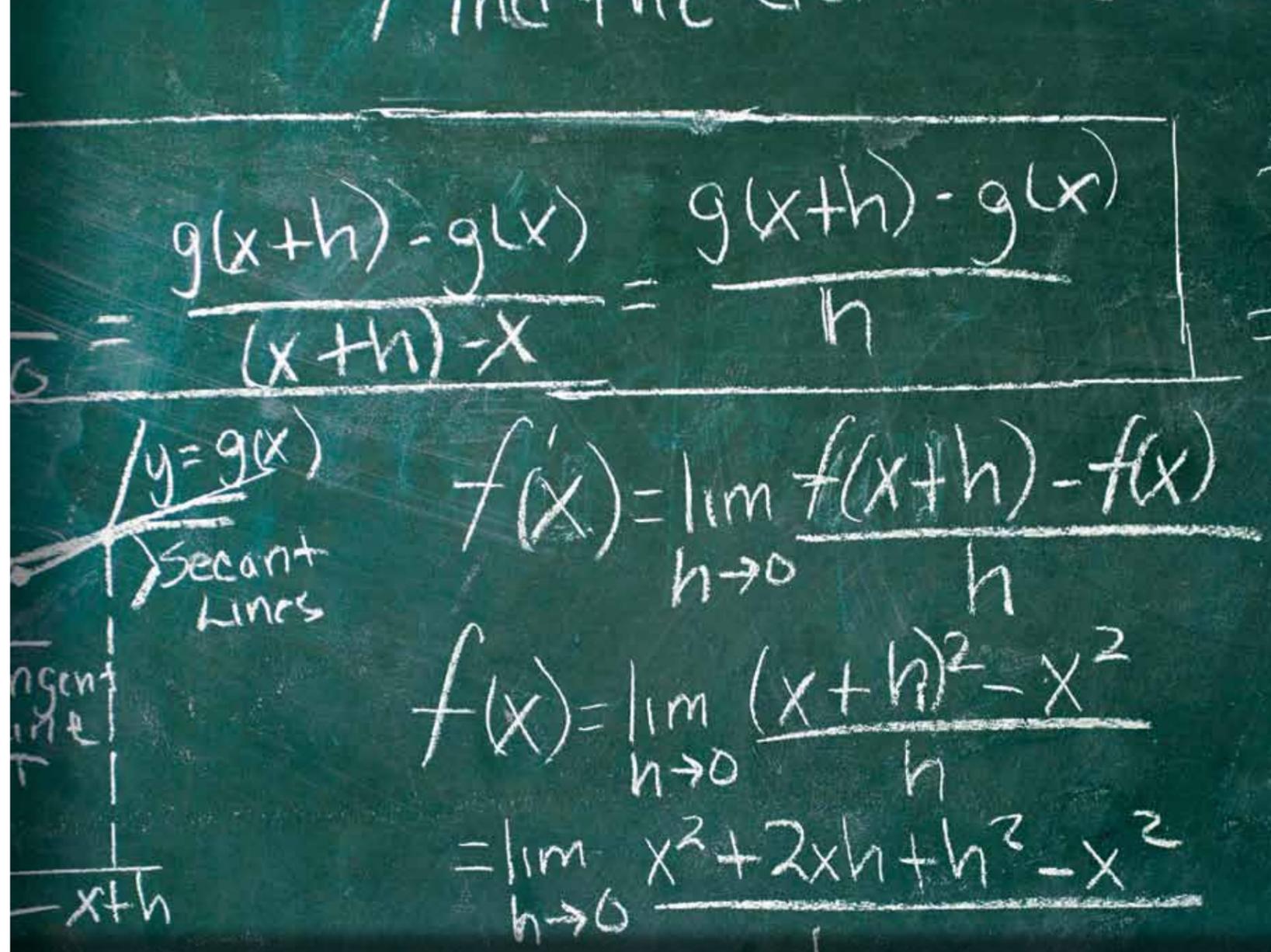
To be able to carry a tune. I'm tired of not being allowed to sing in church.

### Which famous person (living or dead) do you think (or have you been told) you most resemble?

Think: Jeremy Irons. Told: Art Carney.

### What is your pet peeve?

Arrogance. Other people's of course, not my own.



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