INTEGRITY vs. CORRUPTION

New $100k Allard Prize rewards courage and leadership in combating corruption

PLUS

Deciphering the mysteries of the Maya
Putting a new spin on some old physics
The Clock Tower and the Anarchists

Freedom Fighter: getting children out of work and into school
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Cover

Integrity vs. Corruption

The Allard Prize for International Integrity is awarded to an individual, movement or organization that has demonstrated exceptional courage and leadership in combating corruption. The inaugural prize went to Indian activist Anna Hazare.

Feature

Freedom Fighter

When Shobha Sharma, BA’03, heard Free the Children founder Craig Kielburger speak at a UBC conference, it changed the course of her life.

Feature

Putting a New Spin on Some Old Physics

A once-obscure piece of scientific equipment is proving key to resolving a serious challenge facing the medical community.

Feature

The Clock Tower and the Anarchists

When a loyal supporter of the university donated funds for a clock tower to honour the founding pioneers of the province, some of the students were less than impressed.

Feature

The ONE WHO HAMMERS

Archaeologist Marc Zender, BA’97, is expert at deciphering ancient Mayan script. He spent the summer at the site of an ancient Mayan city in Belize.

Feature

The Hollow Earth

A short story by Jay Brown, MFA’10

Q & A

The Last Word: With William Gibson, BA’77

Q: What would you like your epitaph to say?
A: I wouldn’t want an epitaph. They’re like tattoos for the dead. Or monogrammed shirts. Name and dates, please!
Around this time last year, news channels were awash with stories about the world’s imminent demise on December 21. The superstitious and anxiety-prone were no doubt hastily stocking up on canned food, padlocks and crossbows, just in case they survived. The superstitious and anxiety-prone were no doubt hastily stocking up about the relative advantages of being in the air come the apocalypse.

The Maya long count calendar, and fearmongers weren’t about to pass up the opportunity to spread messages of doom and gloom. Around this time last year, news channels were awash with the long count Maya calendar was coming to the end. Experts busily refuted rumours of asteroids and rogue planets hurtling towards Earth. NASA even released a news item on the December 21 phenomenon, mostly based on an interview with “hard-nosed scientist” Jeff Todd, and the superstitious and anxiety-prone were no doubt hastily stocking up about the relative advantages of being in the air come the apocalypse.

The Maya mated astronomy, developed an elaborate written language, and Carlson describes their long count calendar as the most complex calendar system ever developed. If the passenger sitting next to me on that December 21 flight had been Dr. John Carlson, a radio astronomer. After brushing aside as a misconception that, I began to see wood trees that were illegally products are made from. Interpol estimates that up to 30 per cent of all wood products are made from trees that were illegally harvested. After learning that, I began to see wood products in a whole new light. Where did this item come from? Who profited and who was harmed?

It seems the criticisms that I’ve seen of his appointment have been more than they expect him to be a bit boring. And among economists, if we rule out those who are boring, that would rule out too many of us.

Some of our guys were walking around with a deer-in-the-headlights look, not believing this guy could do. He’s motivating. But I didn’t go seeking that. We’re just so lucky to have all of the natural components of the character of Austin Hinchee. We’ve got two feelings: one is the loss of a hero, but the other is the loss of a child that we sent into harm. People can step back and say a dog is not worth as much as a human being, that sort of thing, but that’s your higher intellect working. Professor emeritus of psychology, Stanley Coren commenting on how the public’s grief over the death of Edmonton police dog Quanto, who was stabbed to death by a suspect he was chasing, is natural.

There is a lot of cultural lore about the power of our eye contact as an influence tool, but our findings show that direct eye contact makes sceptical listeners less likely to change their minds, not more, as previously believed.

UCC Prof. Frances Chen, who used new eye-tracking technologies to investigate the effects of eye contact in situations involving persuasion. (UBC Media Release – Oct 2, 2013)

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All of the creatures that are displayed could be of only one species. There’s so much life on this Earth that you just can’t see with the naked eye.

Derek Jung, interpret at The Bovenderconomy Museum at UBC, on the museum’s latest exhibit featuring framed images of magnified microbes. (Breakfast Television Vancouver – Oct 8, 2013)

INTERPOL estimates that up to 30 per cent of all wood products are made from trees that were illegally harvested. After learning that, I began to see wood products in a whole new light. Where did this item come from? Who profited and who was harmed? (UBC Media Release – Oct 2, 2013)
hanging their breath for 22 minutes and 30 seconds after breathing in pure oxygen. “There have been some preliminary studies done over the years on breath-hold divers, but very little research completed on their brains,” says Willie, who is earning his PhD in cerebral vascular physiology. “We aim to tease out the mechanisms involved that allow these people to hold their breath for such a long time.” The second goal, he says, is to fundamentally understand how the brain responds to changes in blood gases, both oxygen and carbon dioxide.

Underland dry land conditions in a lab, the athletes were monitored while holding their breath until reaching levels of oxygen far lower than most people could survive – nearly as low as that of a human on the summit of Mt. Everest. (The world record for free-divers not using oxygen, the type of breathing that Willie is conducting, is about 12 minutes.) Sophisticated ultrasound equipment was used to monitor the flow of blood into the brain. “This kind of research is important to breath-hold divers, and to most people,” Willie says. “But it’s especially important for people who live with diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and heart failure, who have changes in blood flow that affect the delivery of oxygen to the brain. These are things that affect their pathology, their quality of life, and their doctor’s ability to treat them.”

HORRORS OF WAR HARDEN GROUP ALLIANCES

War is hell and, according to new research, experiencing its horrors can cause people to have a greater desire for members of their own group, particularly if they are exposed to warfare in later childhood or early adulthood. “These effects have the potential to explain why conflict sometimes leads to cycles of war and sometimes stimulates nation-building in its wake,” says study co-author Joseph Henrich, a professor in UBC’s Department of Psychology and Economics.

The researchers collected data from 453 children in the Republic of Georgia following the brief but devastating war between Russia and Georgia over South Ossetia. They also collected data from 566 adults in Sierra Leone following an 11-year civil war that ended in 2006, which led to the displacement of much of the population and the deaths of more than 50,000 civilians. Based on evolutionary theory, the researchers hypothesized that experiences with intergroup conflicts should lead individuals to become more focused on their own group’s well-being, since individual survival is often linked to the fate of the group.

The subjects played games that involved choosing how to allocate tokens to themselves and an anonymous partner. In some cases, the anonymous partner was from the same village or school, and in other cases not. Those who had experienced war were more willing to sacrifice to reduce inequality if their partner was from the same village or school. No such effects were present in participants younger than six or older than 20 who experienced war. “These findings suggest that if war is experienced during a sensitive window in development between middle childhood and early adolescence, then it leaves an enduring mark,” says co-author Michal Bauer of Charles University, Czech Republic.

The research may help to explain why war can lead to nation building or a perpetual cycle of war. “When people identify with an in-group that can protect and defend them, then national identity can be enhanced,” says Henrich. “For people who identify with a subnational identity, such as an ethnic group, we can see the seeds of future conflicts.”

RAT CASINO

With the help of a rat casino, UBC brain researchers have successfully reduced behaviours in rats that are commonly associated with compulsive gambling in humans.

The study, which featured the first successful modeling of slot machine-style gambling with rats in North America, is the first to show that problem gambling behaviours can be treated with drugs that block dopamine D4 receptors.

For the study, rats were first trained for sugar pellets using a slot machine-style device that featured three flashing lights and two levers they could press with their paws. The rats exhibited several behaviours associated with problem gambling, such as the tendency to treat “near misses” similarly to wins. Building on previous research, the team focused on the dopamine D4 receptor, which has been linked to a variety of behavioural disorders but never proven useful in treatment. The study found that rats treated with a dopamine D4 receptor-blocking medication exhibited reduced levels of behaviours associated with problem gambling.

“More work is needed, but these findings offer new hope for the treatment of gambling addiction,” says study co-author, lead author of the study and a PhD student in UBC’s Department of Psychology.

TAGGING A DRAG

American and Canadian researchers have for the first time quantified the energy cost to aquatic animals when they carry satellite tags, video cameras and other research instruments.

Studying finfish and birds off the California and Oregon coasts, the team found that while most commercially available tags increased drag by more than five per cent for large adult animals in the wild, these same devices increased drag by more than 100 per cent on smaller or juvenile animals. “Many marine animals make year-long breeding migrations crossing entire oceans, while others may rely on high speeds and acceleration – enabling them to catch prey or to escape predators,” says T. Todd Jones, a scientist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center in Hawaii who led the study while a doctoral fellow at UBC. “If the drag costs from carrying tags disrupts their natural behaviour, they may lose out on breeding and foraging seasons, be more vulnerable to predators and diseases, and become less competitive.”

The study includes a universal formula that allows scientists to calculate drag for a wide range of marine species including turtles, mammals, fish, and diving birds to inform study design. “In addition to the animal welfare and conservation implications, excessive drag may also impede the collection of research data in the wild,” says Jones. “The guidelines we’ve developed can help ensure that the data collected accurately reflect the animal’s natural behaviours in the wild, so we can devise conservation strategies accordingly.”

SELF-INTEREST STOPS US INVESTING IN FUTURE

Time is a huge impediment when it comes to working together to halt the effects of climate change, new research suggests. A study has recently revealed that groups cooperate less for climate change mitigation when the rewards of cooperation lie in the future, especially if they stretch into future generations.

“People are often self-interested, so when it comes to investing in a cooperative dilemma like climate change, rewards that benefit our offspring – or even our future self – may not motivate us to act,” says Jennifer Jacquet, a clinical assistant professor at New York University’s Environmental Studies Program, who conducted the research while a post-doctoral fellow working with math professor Christoph Hauert at UBC.

“Since no one person can affect climate change alone, we designed the first experiment to gauge whether group dynamics could encourage people to cooperate towards a better future.”

Researchers at UBC and two Max Planck Institutes in Germany gave study participants 40 Euros each to invest, as a group, of six towards climate change actions. If participants cooperated to pool together 110 Euros for climate change, returns on their investment, in the form of 45 additional Euros each, were promised one day later, seven weeks later, or were invested in planting a tree. The study would lead to climate benefits decades down the road – but not personally to the participants. Although many individuals invested initially in the long-term investment designed to simulate benefits to future generations, none of the groups achieved the target.

“We learned from this experiment that even groups gravitate towards instant gratification,” says Hauert, an expert in game theory, the study of strategic decision-making. “The authors suggest that international negotiations to mitigate climate change are unlikely to succeed if individual countries’ short-term gains are not taken into consideration.”

CONSENSUS ON BIGGEST THREATS TO WILDLIFE

Living in a place lauded for its natural beauty and vast wildlife, British Columbians take much pride in their great outdoors. So when it comes to protecting and preserving the wild animals that live in BC, passions can leave people divided.

Take the debate over the use of wolves – conservationists argue killing wolves helps preserve moose populations, supporting the sustainable killing of wildlife as a tool that promotes biodiversity. Animal welfare scientists are concerned with the suffering of individual animals and the method of killing.

But the debate over the human threat to wildlife doesn’t have to be polarizing, suggests new research from UBC. Using an anonymous online survey with 153 BC residents, researchers asked experts, biologists, conservationists, animal welfare scientists and the general public – were asked to rate the level of harm caused by a variety of human activities that impact wildlife.

The results surprised Sara Dubois, who conducted the survey as part of her doctoral studies in UBC’s Animal Welfare Program. “Both sets of experts, conservationists and animal welfare scientists, along with the public, agreed independently that the biggest harms to wildlife are development, pollution, and agriculture,” she says. “There is agreement that the bigger picture stuff – habitat loss, pollution – is hurting wildlife more than hunting or vehicle collisions.”

Dubois says the results show the potential for common ground to be reached between the experts, who are often pitted against one another. She notes her research has helped her in her job as manager of wildlife services for the BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, where she often has to negotiate between the two sides.
Sadism may be more common than we think, according to a pair of popular culture. That’s what anti-hero Walter White tells Gus Fring before entering to someone else. Situational and even willing to make an extra effort to cause harm. Criminals. Some people derive pleasure from cruelty in everyday situations and are even willing to make an extra effort to cause harm. Enduring pain from ice water. As predicted, participants who chose to intensify the suffering of an innocent opponent when they realized the opponent wouldn’t fight back. They were also the only ones willing to expand additional time and energy to cause sufficient suffering to an innocent opponent.

Sadism is the tendency to derive pleasure from causing pain or suffering to others. It can manifest in various forms, from minor teasing to severe violence and torture.

In his new book, Big Gods, Ara Norenzayan explains why world religions and their secular successors continue to influence events at the dawn of the 21st century. Let’s start with a basic question. How do you define “Big Gods”? Big gods are the deities of the great polytheistic and monotheistic faiths that have spread around the world in the last 10,000 to 12,000 years. These powerful “supernatural watchers” demand passionate commitment, meddle into peoples’ affairs, reward good deeds and punish acts that violate the community’s norms. This might come as a surprise to many people, but religion didn’t start this way. As best as we can tell, among ancestral societies, and in modern hunter-gatherers today, the gods have limited knowledge and power. While some are pleased by rituals and sacrifices offered to them, most care little about how people treat each other. This is the central puzzle that I try to solve in this book: how did we get from morally indifferent gods with limited powers, to the vast majority of people today worshipping big gods.

How did we make the leap from hunter-gatherer gods to the religiously diverse societies we live in today? We know that there is tremendous cultural diversity and dynamism in religious beliefs and practices in the world. Lurking underneath this diversity, there is a striking pattern. Gods play a small part in the rich and varied cooperative lives of hunting and gathering societies, but over time, as societies get larger and more complex, religion and morality become increasingly intertwined. The gods brought about change, and the gods have limited knowledge and power. People who meddle into peoples’ affairs, reward good deeds and punish acts that violate the community’s norms. This might come as a surprise to many people, but religion didn’t start this way. As best as we can tell, among ancestral societies, and in modern hunter-gatherers today, the gods have limited knowledge and power. While some are pleased by rituals and sacrifices offered to them, most care little about how people treat each other. This is the central puzzle that I try to solve in this book: how did we get from morally indifferent gods with limited powers, to the vast majority of people today worshipping big gods.

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What does Big Gods tell us about the role of religion in our society today? Despite the massive advances of science and technology, world religions and their secular successors continue to influence events at the dawn of the 21st century. Whether it is about religious diversity, a backlash against secularism, or the global repercussions of conflict among religions, hardly a day goes by without religion making headlines. In looking at the origins and spread of world religions, Big Gods tackles these contemporary issues that are shaping events today.

What does Quebec’s recently proposed charter of values say about the separation of church and state and the ability for societies to create a tolerant atmosphere for people of different faiths? Quebec’s proposed charter is just one example of the ongoing battle between competing visions of secularism. Separation of religion and state is, of course, an important achievement of secularism. When the state remains truly neutral in matters of faith, it promotes peaceful co-existence of different cultures and religions. But neutrality does not imply suppressing or banning religion or, for that matter, other culturally cherished values. Multicultural civil societies thrive by accommodating the self-expression of people of different faiths, as well as non-believers.

Ara Norenzayan is professor of psychology at UBC and a co-director of UBC’s Centre for Human Evolution, Cognition, and Culture.
UBC ARCHAEOLOGISTS HELP DISCOVER MYSTERY STONE AGE TRIBE

UBC archaeologists have helped to uncover the last known group of hunter-gatherers in Central Europe.

Working with international researchers, the UBC team used advanced isotope analysis techniques to determine that a group of hunter-gatherers retained their way of life 2,000 years longer than previously thought.

“Until now, scientists believed that hunter-gathering cultures disappeared in Central Europe almost immediately after farming began around 5,000 BC,” says Olaf Nehlich, a post-doctoral researcher in UBC’s department of Anthropology. “These new findings show that hunter-gatherers continued to exist alongside farming societies for a much longer period of time.”

Nehlich and UBC Anthropology professor Michael Richards conducted the isotope analysis that identifies that the two different groups of Homo Sapiens had differing diets, indicative of their hunter-gathering and farming lifestyles. UBC has the only lab in Canada - and one of a handful around the globe - equipped for archaeological research using this combination of isotopes.

The study focused on preserved Stone Age specimens found in the ancient Blätterhöhle archaeological site in Hagen, Germany. The UBC researchers analyzed sulfur, nitrogen and carbon isotopes in the specimens’ bones and teeth while a team lead by Ruth Bollongino of Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz conducted genetic testing, which found surprisingly little cross-mating between the two cultural groups.

According to the researchers, further study is needed to determine the social relationships between them. “How these two groups of Homo Sapiens interacted is still very much a mystery,” says Nehlich. “Our findings suggest they lived separately, and kept to each other, but at this point, we have no idea if they were friends or foes.”

The study, “2000 Years of Parallel Societies in Stone Age Central Europe,” was published in Science Express journal.

EVENTS

UBC DIALOGUES

Marine conservation: Luxury or necessity?
Hong Kong – January, 2014

Should we work to live? Or live to work?
Vancouver – January 14, 2014

Plugged in: Is technology connecting us? Or controlling us?
Okanagan – January 30, 2014

THE NEXT STEP: MAKING THE PITCH

The Next Step is a program for recent graduates providing advice and guidance for life after university.

Vancouver – February 4, 2014

Okanagan – March 27, 2014

The Grape Debate 2014:

Is wine made in the vineyard or in the winery?
Vancouver – January 31, 2014
Innovation Goggles

Stephen J. Toope
President and Vice-Chancellor, UBC

What does innovation look like to you? Is it a computer processor that runs 1,000 times faster than the best money can buy? Or a pair of ski goggles that feeds you performance metrics, web data and phone calls all from the middle of a black diamond run? What about groundbreaking robot conducting perfectly accurate surgeries, while the surgeon’s hands are concentrated pools of talent, innovation and goodwill that can – and do – produce the sort of thinking and action that leads to great things. Here students are encouraged to recognize that, by virtue of the resource and energy sectors, and you begin to see that something’s with this picture.

The tech-transfer process – by which university research contributes to technological progress and economic growth – is weak, and it’s time we’re reengineering our university industry liaison office (UILO) to facilitate not only the commercialization of medical discoveries but all elements of this strategy.

Perhaps most importantly, we recently brought together key industry leaders and organizations to discuss how business, academia and government can cooperate to accelerate our innovation ecosystem. We all have our work cut out for us between now and next year’s roundtable, but collaborating in such a partnership has the potential to create our own version of San Diego’s CONNECT or London’s Tech City. That’s what innovation looks like to me.

Every stakeholder in the process, from industry to government to granting agencies to UBC, bears a share of the responsibility for that. Here’s what we’re doing about it at UBC:

1. We’re opening a corporate relations office to better nurture and build our relationships with industry;
2. We’re opening a faculty consulting agency to handle administrative to our experts can focus on delivering innovative solutions to their clients;
3. We’ve become a living laboratory for sustainability, and the solutions we elose are exportable and scalable in this wider community – civic to global;
4. We’ve redesigned our ‘entrepreneurship@UBC’ program to include education, workshopings, venture creation, and used funding, with all content available online; and
5. We’re reengineering our University Industry Liaison Office (UILO) to facilitate not only the commercialization of medical discoveries but all elements of this strategy.

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MESSAGE

Making Things Happen

Jeff Todd
Executive Director, Alumni-Association@UBC Alumni

When I was a kid in the late 1960s, I would look up at the moon and try to imagine people up there. It seemed like an impossible dream – the stuff of science fiction. But for a young boy I set the imagination soaring. Would I grow up and become an astronaut? Would I at least get to go up there as a tourist one day? As it happens, I’ve stayed put on terra firma, but little did I guess that decades later I would be hosting celebrations to recognize the amazing career of someone who was right in the thick of that mind-blowing human accomplishment of landing on the moon. One of this year’s alumni UBC Achievement Awards recipients is William Carpenter, MD, PhD, who was chief physician to the Apollo 11 astronauts.

I knew of his “World Famous Physician” as he became known for his TV appearances at the time – long before I’d ever heard of UBC. But I like to think that UBC was in Dr. Carpenter’s DNA long before NASA! We celebrated him along with five other exceptional members of the UBC community (see page 36) at an uplifting awards ceremony and dinner in November.

Sometimes the world’s problems and challenges may seem overwhelming in scale, but that hasn’t stopped any of our recipients from taking action to address some of them. One of the reasons I’m working at UBC in the first place is the hope that universities are such hopeful places. They are concentrated pools of talent, innovation and goodwill that can – and do – produce the sort of thinking and action that leads to breakthroughs. These students are encouraged to recognize that, by virtue of their education, they are truly to be invested in a broader future than just their own. Our six awards recipients certainly make for some pretty impressive role models.
1. Pay attention to the basics if you want to look put-together.
2. A good tailor is your best friend. They can often improve the fit of your clothes, but they can also upgrade details such as buttons to make an inexpensive article of clothing look like a high-end garment.
3. Keep the essentials in your closet at all times. Every man should have a coat and a navy or grey suit. Men can dress up a business casual outfit with an unstructured jacket (a blazer or sports jacket), while women can use a jacket or a cardigan. Outfit with an unstructured jacket (a blazer or sports jacket), while women can use a jacket or a cardigan.
4. Make an inexpensive article of clothing look like a high-end garment.
5. Don’t get caught up in a look. Mix it up a little. You don’t want to fall into the “green sweater day” trap where you wear the same outfit into the design — which has obvious links to the provincial coat of arms. The coat of arms has had various iterations over the years.
6. Learn how to tie your own tie. Keep your shoes polished and in good repair. Retire jeans from your business casual rotation as soon as they show any signs of wear and tear.
7. Keep your audience in mind. In an interview situation, try to figure out what you want, at a price you can afford.
8. Know your audience. In an interview situation, try to figure out what you want, at a price you can afford.
9. Be consistent. Quality rendering for a variety of formats. the design refinements have focused on accurate historical relevance and period vernaculars, including the use of letterforms appropriate to the period.
10. More readable type
11. Cleaner book shape with fewer pages
12. Properly rendered buckles and straps
13. Decorative flourish historically referenced with leaves of vines indigenous to British Columbia
14. Smoother curves on sun rays and waves

In the spring of 2013, the coat of arms underwent more changes — this time to restore its original splendor and ensure consistent, quality rendering for a variety of formats. The design refinements have focused on accurate historical relevance and period vernaculars, including the use of letterforms appropriate to the period.

• More readable type
• Cleaner book shape with fewer pages
• Properly rendered buckles and straps
• Decorative flourish historically referenced with leaves of vines indigenous to British Columbia
• Smoother curves on sun rays and waves

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Support UBC with time and knowledge: Apply to become a Convocation Member of Senate

Under the University Act, academic governance of The University of British Columbia is vested in two Senates, comprised of faculty, staff, alumni and student representatives that meet monthly throughout the academic year. As a Convocation Member of Senate, you can have a real and lasting impact on the operations and future direction of The University of British Columbia. All members of the convocation are eligible, except for current faculty members.

During your three-year term, you may help to:
• Submit academic policies
• Review and revise admission standards
• Establish new departments and schools
• And much more! Visit http://senate.ubc.ca for more.

Two twelve positions on the Vancouver Senate and two positions on the Okanagan Senate are waiting.

Become the next alumni voice, and change the future of your school.

Don’t wait—nominations are due January 31st 2014.

Visit http://facultystaff.students.ubc.ca/triennial-elections for more about the nomination process, or connect for more information through elections.information@ubc.ca / 604-827-0003
The Allard Prize for International Integrity is awarded to an individual, movement or organization that has demonstrated exceptional courage and leadership in combating corruption, especially through promoting transparency, accountability and the rule of law. The $100k prize was established by UBC alumnus Peter Allard, QC, as part of an $11.86m donation that helped fund the new Law building, Allard Hall.

The inaugural recipient of the prize is Anna Hazare, who for decades has led successful movements across India to enhance government transparency and investigate and prosecute official corruption.

The other finalists – Dr. Sima Samar, an internationally celebrated advocate for human and women’s rights, and Global Witness, an organization campaigning against natural resource-related conflict and corruption and associated environmental and human rights abuses – were each awarded $25,000.

Go to trekmagazine.alumni.ubc.ca to watch an inspirational video about the finalists’ lives and work.
The following is abbreviated from remarks made by Peter Allard, QC (BARR. LLB’68), at the Allard Prize ceremony on September 25, 2013. Just after the end of the Second World War, the generation of UBC Law students who preceded me came forward with a new sense of hope and commitment to build a better and more just world. Tens of millions of the world’s citizens had just died horrific deaths through the most cruel savagery, atrocities and trauma imaginable. Political regimes preceding WWII, both on the extreme left and right, clearly demonstrated that, despite their constitutions and manifestoes to the contrary, the realities of their political administrations stripped citizens of their basic democratic rights of fairness and justice and right to the assurance of an impartial rule of law. Tyranny reigned. After the war, with the assistance of a number of international legal experts and the work of the Manhattan scientists from The United Nations, democracy in North America and Europe began to encounter an era of peace and stability. Every form of government is a constant “work in progress,” demanding full transparency, accountability and value for those citizens who work and deliver revenue to the system to ensure that those less fortunate are raised up to a minimum level, that checks and balances over power and abuse of power actually work, and that our democratic values and principles are rooted to the middle ground where a strong sense of right and wrong, social justice and the truth are acknowledged and stabilized.

We often rashly think that issues of accountability, corruption and the lack of the rule of law are Second and Third World issues. But the reality is that our Western democratic systems are subject to precisely the same concerns. Over the past 30 years, the necessary checks and balances have been increasingly eroded through deregulation and the influence of money over substance and democratic principles. Stability and the rule of law have, to a significant extent, given way to judicial and lawless powers in the hands of a few, and an over-taxed and increasingly vulnerable middle class. Self-interest and short-term greed are threatening legal systems around the world, and long-term protections are disappearing. Much of this degradation has been accomplished with the sanitization of the facade of our legal and judicial brethren. Furthermore, there has been a loss of judicial independence over time, and judges, some of whom have declared that the solutions through elaborate political networking systems, are themselves subject to the temptations of their own and their associates’ interests.

In order to protect each and every democratic principle that we hold dear, it’s imperative that we foster more independent, probative, balanced and impartial justice systems worldwide. We must protect and fight for the basic rights that some people have today and for which others yearn. For history has warned us that they are fragile, if左者s in the absence of independent judicial oversight. What better place to highlight the need to strengthen the concept of the rule of law, ethics and international integrity within the legal profession and the broader community than at UBC Law? And how better to support this activism than to focus attention on those guiding lights in the world who tirelessly and selflessly fight, often at great personal risk, on behalf of those who are denied equal access to a just and fair legal system?

The Allard Prize honours those precious and inspirational souls whose work and actions embody all of the prize criteria – including leadership, courage, transparency, accountability and the rule of law. All of this year’s finalists – Global Witness, Anna Hazare and Sama-Sama – are extraordinary, all are deserving, and we hold all of them in the highest esteem.

To a large extent this prize is meant to honour the generation that preceded me along with their ideals and hopes for a just and better life, and who had hopes and dreams for their families and their families’ families for a safer and more secure society. It is now time for us to encourage the next generation to be actively engaged and vigilant, and for disparate groups to come together, to effect positive change and find common solutions to the constant threats to basic human rights and security. I challenge all of us to become participants in the quest to improve all of the systems that we are responsible for managing. Not just in Canada, but worldwide. And I challenge all of us to spend less time on pure commentary, and more time on incorporating our collective intellects into progressive and equitable action.

Transcript of remarks made by Allard Prize winner Anna Hazare on accepting the honour:

Dear Sisters and Brothers / Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mr. Peter Allard is one who has dedicated his mind, body and soul towards service to the society and I am very happy to receive this recognition.

I have been combating corruption for the last 26 years. I have always followed and practiced non-violent methods of "Satyagraha" (ie: protests through agitations, demonstrations, hunger strikes, etc.) I have never allowed any violence to take place.

On August 16, 2011, when I went on a hunger strike at Ramleela Maidan, New Delhi, people turned up in very large numbers, not only in New Delhi but also all across the nation. Millions of people came forward on to the streets to pledge their support, but not a single stone was thrown. This has become a unique example for the rest of the world. I have also been imprisoned by the government quite a few times, especially during agitation.

I also tried to fight the legal battles through the judiciary. Some of the deposed ministers filed various legal suits against me at various places. Eleven advocates came forward and offered me their voluntary legal services. Some are still fighting cases on my behalf, without charging any money.

Due to the persistent anti-corruption activity, six cabinet ministers had to resign from their posts, and more than 400 corrupt government officers have been dismissed. Due to these agitations, the government was forced to bring about transparency in the government's operations. The government amended and framed new laws.

Similarly, agitations for improvement in government functioning led to introduction of a 12th amendment in the government's attendance system. A new legislature came into existence by virtue of which no document could remain without action for more than seven days.

The Right to Information Act came into existence. Earlier information on various facts was denied to the public under the pretext of the Official Secrets Act. After gaining access to vital information, the RTI Act has led to the unearthing of a large number of scams and some really big ones.

PHOTO COMPETITION

Katharina Hoese is a Beijing-based photographer who has worked throughout Asia for nearly two decades. Her work primarily focuses on China’s social concerns, among them youth and urban culture, religion and North Korean refugees.

The woman in this photo is Kim Jong-Ya (a pseudonym), 63, from Yang, China. Ms. Kim is a member of a handful of Chinese activists from this region who have put their lives at risk to help neighboring North Korean refugees. Ms. Kim has dedicated her life to creating a safe passage to South Korea for North Koreans via mainland China. She has been imprisoned twice by North Korean agents operating in China. The Allard Prize Photo Competition jury selected this photo as it captures the image of a woman with the courage to take a bigger life despite the risks involved.

Somenath Mukhopadhyay is an amateur photographer and a teacher at a higher secondary school. His work primarily focuses on people and the environment in particular the areas of agriculture, human health, water and food security and climate change.

The boy in this photo is collecting water from a dried-up pond in Brimul, a district in West Bengal, India. The district is known for its arid soil and extreme weather conditions have marginalized communities such as fisheries that rely on its surroundings for food and shelter. The competition jury selected this photo as it highlights the basic human rights issue of access to safe drinking water.

Earlier there were several malpractices for the transfers of the government officers. Now, due to the new anti-corruption act, the government officer can be transferred before completion of his three year term, nor can he retain that post for more than three years.

A village community meeting is, in fact, a village parliament. A new legislature came into existence empowering the village community with more powers. The co-operative institutions were plagued with rampant corruption. A completely new legislation was framed to counter the corruption. There are several co-operative credit societies, and these are mostly controlled by powerful politicians. The controllers would siphon off almost all the money and later declare the banks as bankrupt. Many poor depositors lost all their wealth, deposits and their lifetime’s earnings. Our agitation forced the government to declare a 2000 million Rupees relief package per year for cooperative deposits.

For the last two years, I have mainly focused my efforts for a very strong "Jana Lokpal Act" (Ombudsman Act). I have already given a notice to the government to go on hunger strike on this issue when the next winter session of parliament begins. I have dedicated my life in the service of the people. I believe, service to humanity, is in real sense, the worship of God. I have been doing my bit and continue to do so within the limits of my abilities. I am thankful to the prize committee to consider me worthy of the honor. Thank you.

The woman in this photo is Kim Jong-jae (a pseudonym), 62, from Yang, China. Ms. Kim escaped from North Korea to find food and shelter in China. It was no easy task to leave North Korea - a country that denies its citizens the basic human-right to travel freely. During her journey to China Ms. Kim had no income, was disabled and had to live on herbs and grass that she collected in the mountains. It took Ms. Kim five days by foot to reach a town in China, where she was supported by her relatives, friends and community. The competition jury selected this photo as it captures the image of a woman with the courage to take a bigger life despite the risks involved.

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Archaeologist Marc Zender – a world renowned expert on ancient hieroglyphs – is helping to unravel the mysteries of the Maya.

Marc Zender strokes the handle of an ancient ceramic dish. It might be an odd gesture, except the handle is in the shape of an irresistibly cute peccary, something like a Central American pig. “You see those curlicue lines?” Zender says, pointing to the rust-colored swirls on either side of the peccary’s face. “Those come from the musk glands.” With those curlicues of blowing wind, the artist is telling us that a peccary stinks.

He almost sat on the rings. “Then I got up to do something else, came back, and –” he blanches, his face flush with excitement. “I cleaned and made notes about them on the bone.” Zender deciphered the writing on them, discovering the name of Cahal Pech’s king and the ancient Mayan word for ring. In the process, he almost sat on the rings. “I cleaned and made notes about them on the bone because there was no other work space.” He stands to demonstrate. “My next destination, likely the Institute of Archaeology in Belize. Everybody caring for irreplaceable items feels nervous, Zender reminds us. In 2011, during Zender’s first season at Cahal Pech, archaeologists found, buried in a tomb, two beautifully inscribed rings made from animal bone. On the snout, laughing as he sets it on the bedspread. The beauty of the clay beast is awesome, yet its fragility is alarming. How can this artifact – this one-of-a-kind object – be sitting here on a bed, instead of behind glass at some museum?

Thomas is worried about storing it in her room. The archaeologists excavated and carried it from a tomb high atop a temple down a flight of uneven stone stairs. Now she has to keep it safe until it reaches its next destination, likely the Institute of Archaeology in Belize.

Marc Zender studying an ancient Maya building. Photo by Kathy Beate- Taylor.
Late Classic (ca. AD 600-900) jade celts excavated from a tomb chamber in 2019. These celts were surrounded by texts and would have required sounds as they struck each other. (Photo by C. Mathews Saunders.)

“His probably the best person to come along in the last ten years in my subject,” says Stephen Houston, a leading archaeologist and professor at Brown University who helped bring Zender to Harvard as a post-doctoral fellow and lecturer, and also acknowledges him as “a spectator.” Zender’s an evidentiary student, beloved of his students. The high school students, led by Zender and AFAR founder Mat Saunders, are searching for the floor and exterior wall of a temple or building hidden within a hill at Cahal Pech. They are doing serious work that feels like play. Zender helps them dig with shovels, refine with trowels, and screen dirt for ceramics and other artifacts. He is authoritative without being remote or stuffy. (His rendition of “The Fun Song” from Sesame Street is considered respectable by his charges.)

At 42, Zender could pass for a decade younger, maybe because he’s never lost a boyish enthusiasm for the coolness of his subject. His mom was fascinated by history and nurtured his interest with frequent trips to the Royal Ontario Museum, where listening to the docents helped inspire his dream of a career as an Egyptologist. He played with secret languages early on. He and his friends would write notes to each other in code or lemon juice, to be revealed by the light of a screen dirt for ceramics and other artifacts.

“Many of the stories from Zender’s marriage. Zender and his then-fiancée, Susan Morley-Zender, an elementary school teacher in New Orleans, says of her husband. “I think he knew when it was time: Not only am I going to do this, I’m going to do it in a way that is different.”

During Zender’s summers at Cahal Pech, the teams of students and professionals have turned up extraordinary finds, including jade figurines, obsidian tools and weapons, painted ceramics, bone, jewelry, shells with hieroglyphs, and an input with the colors of pigment still intact. Jade pendants, some with corn on them, have been found in Maya times but chided as they knocked together—the sound of the elite strutting by. From the 32 sites where Zender has worked or consulted, in Maya times but chimed as they knocked together—the sound of the figurines, obsidian tools and weapons, painted ceramics, bone, jewelry, and professionals have turned up extraordinary finds, including jade celts. During Zender’s three summers at Cahal Pech, the teams of students from Canada. Egyptian hieroglyphs had been largely decoded by the time Harvard’s Extension School.) He also realized that the Maya, like the Egyptians, had hieroglyphs—and that you could drive to Maya sites from Canada. Egyptian hieroglyphs had been largely decoded by the time Zender was at university, while there was still much to learn about Mayan.

Zender’s life has taken unexpected turns before. He is the second in his extended family to graduate from university, earning his undergraduate degree in anthroplogy at age 23, guided by his mentor, UBC associate professor William R. Thornton. The way Zender set out to become the best at an obscure subject may not be a bad plan. Before going to college, read plenty of books on your own first. He took time off to self-educate,” Morley-Zender, an elementary school teacher in New Orleans, says of her husband. “I think he knew when it was time: Not only am I going to do this, I’ll do it with excellence.”

They met in a UBC class on Indian history and married a year after graduation. He had already become “instant dad” to her two young daughters, and they have a third daughter, all of whom enjoy hieroglyphs, although not quite as much as their dad. Secret signs can come in handy even for them. When Zender needs to let them know where the house keys are, he does so with Egyptian hieroglyphs.

It takes both patience and a soaring imagination to sustain a career in archaeology. Zender, Saunders, and others have many conversations about whether the stories they’re uncovering are part of a wall or the beginnings of stars, whether they are part of an intact building or a collapsed one. Some of the material could be duab, the executive order for stucco or plaster used on an ancient building, now fallen and just historical debris. Add looting from the 1950s and 1,200 years of trees, and “the rubble pattern of a building can look ridiculously complicated,” Zender admits. “A whole generation of trees can grow up, become massive, die, and yank the top of a building to pieces.”

He’s going on a four-day trip from the morning of the top of the excavation hill. As he describes how commoners and the elite lived, the city seems to materialize before him. Perhaps such imaginary visions—of structures and pathways, ancient ball games and markets—are what Zender sees all the time. Below, the students host wheelbarrows of excavated dirt and someone’s iPod plays Billy Joel’s “New York State of Mind.”

Zender, who skips from stone to stone with the agility of a mountain goat, agrees that archaeology is like working a puzzle, “And we usually have all the puzzle pieces, and we don’t have the picture on the box lid,” he says. They’ve seen enough maps, computer models, or reports, though, that they can hypothesize; archaeologists begin with the known to piece together the unknown.

That’s what the students learn. Their efforts could give staff from the Institute of Archaeology enough information to reconstruct or conserve the facade of the new structure by next summer. This work isn’t for everyone. It’s tiring, even for teenagers. Below can be so humid in July that you feel as if you never leave your bathroom after a shower. But by Friday afternoon, at the end of their second week in Belize, there’s a movie-ready ending. They’ve found facing stones from a long-ago staircase that can help guide the rest of the excavation.

To anyone who has invested time on the site, or in the company of Zender, the facing stones are like jewels. It is so easy to get wrapped up in what might be under that next layer of soil. For Zender, the excitement about making discoveries in the field has never waned. “All those giddy, Indiana Jones-type feelings come back to you,” he says. “You’re digging in a sandbox—and coming up with treasures.”

This summer more than 40 students are covered in grime and joyfully digging where 6,000 people may once have lived before the collapse of the ancient Maya civilization around 900 AD. Zender and his friends would write notes to each other in code or lemon juice, to be revealed by the light of a screen dirt for ceramics and other artifacts.

In the bathroom waste holding-tank was positioned above the muffler, and would make musical sounds as they struck each other. (Photo by C. Mathews Saunders.)

Late Classic (ca. AD 600-900) jade celts excavated from a tomb chamber in 2019. These celts were surrounded by texts and would have required sounds as they struck each other. (Photo by C. Mathews Saunders.)
The past year has been all about revitalization. From a re-examination of its identity to the roll-out of a new strategic plan, alumni UBC has positioned itself to surpass the university’s campaign goal of doubling alumni engagement with UBC by 2015.

In 2012-13, more than 45,000 alumni were involved with the university in some capacity—from simply updating an address in order to receive news and event invitations, to mentoring a student, to serving on a dean’s committee, to participating in one of our myriad programs tailored for alumni. This is an increase of 30 per cent over last year.

The new strategic plan developed last year is now in execution; a new brand is enlivening communications and growing awareness of the organization and its many offerings; and, as the new student union building nears completion, we eagerly anticipate breaking ground in preparation for a new alumni centre right next door.

All the elements are in place for a record-breaking 2013-14. For more information about staying involved with UBC, please go to alumni.ubc.ca

**GROUNDBREAKING: A HOME FOR ALUMNI FOR LIFE**

To better serve our 285,000 alumni across the globe, UBC and alumni UBC are building a brand new alumni centre at the heart of the Vancouver campus, with an expected completion date of April 2015.

The centre will be the first of its kind in Canada and a physical representation of the partnership between UBC and its alumni. Beyond symbolism, it will be a key resource for alumni as they do business, expand their careers, satisfy their intellectual, cultural and social appetites, and engage with other alumni and members of the campus community. It will also serve as a welcome centre for non-alumni visitors—an introduction to UBC presented by its grads.

The project was initiated by committed alumni volunteers, and support from alumni across Canada and around the world is essential to its completion.

Please visit alumnicentre.ubc.ca to find out more.

For information about contributing to the Alumni Centre please contact Leanne Poon at 604-822-9245 or Leanne.Poon@ubc.ca

**ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT 2012-13**

**in 2013:**

45,095

ALUMNI ENGAGED
Holding her infant son in her arms last June, Shobha Sharma decided to name him Samanyu Azad – a name that honours the development work in rural India she has poured her soul into for close to 10 years.

“Azad means freedom. I named my son after a child labourer I met there,” says Sharma, who was deeply affected by the grim life the 11-year-old was leading. “Azad played the dhol drum at wedding ceremonies, processioning, travelling to different communities without his family. I realized that children were employed here for several reasons; they’re paid less, there’s less of a security risk to their employers.”

Sharma decided to pursue a master’s degree in Indigenous Governance through Education in Ladakh, a program with which she had become increasingly disturbed by the marginalization of indigenous populations in North America. Right after graduation, she began a two-year stint at Free The Children’s Toronto office.

“People thought that I was in a ‘saving the world’ stage, but within my first year, I was promoted to director of communications,” says Sharma, who later decided to pursue a master’s degree in Indigenous Governance at the University of Victoria. She was especially interested in education reform, and spent six months in Ladakh at the University of Victoria’s hands-on fieldwork towards her thesis, Regenerating Indigenous Governance through Education in Ladakh.

“If you have the opportunity to provide support to individuals or a community, go when you have the least to gain,” she says. “In Ladakh – 14,000 feet above sea level – in the middle of the winter, where temperatures [that go down to] minus 50 keep all the tourists away. It gave me an opportunity to understand the hardship and work with the community towards real solutions.”

Living in a 6 x 6 solar-powered room built into the mountain, Sharma didn’t just understand the hardships, she lived them. “Working in Ladakh was the most powerful experience of my life,” she says. “It made me want to empower Ladakhi youth by helping them gain skills so they could become community leaders. I used Free The Children materials to teach solution-oriented thinking and action planning. In that part of Asia, there’s not a lot of innovation in education; the kids aren’t allowed to think for themselves.”

Within days of Sharma’s return home, Free The Children tapped her to launch its new centre in Udaipur. “I’ll never forget the day I got permission to build a school,” she says. “When I went into the community with a contractor, the elders walked me up to the school grounds, as if saying to the people ‘we support her.’ That was incredible.”

Sharma managed a team of 25 and worked 16-hour days. She led donor relations, built relationships with government and local community leaders, and oversaw local construction. With temperatures hovering at 40 degrees, Sharma followed the villagers’ schedule. “I’d get up at three in the morning to go into the field, and wake up at 4:30 a.m. with a cup of tea to cool down,” she says. “The sun was so intense that I’d throw up if I sat in the middle of the day, so I often wouldn’t eat. Every summer for the first three years I was there, I’d get severely dehydrated, so I’d have to go to the city hospital for a saline drip.”

Although Udaipur is one of the most sought-after tourist destinations in the world, it is surrounded by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the community members guided and supported by poverty. Sharma, who speaks Hindi, Punjabi and Marwari, the local dialect in Udaipur, helped create alternative income generation projects for the
villagers. By connecting them directly to the market and introducing new technology that added value to their crops, Sharma’s team helped provide income to parents so they’d have the economic freedom to send their children to school. Running awareness campaigns about child labour diverted many kids into Free The Children’s government-supported schools, including the one in Lai Community of which Sharma is most proud.

“When we initially got here, we found a mud hut that was being used as a local pub by night and a school by day,” she recalls. “Working with the community, we built a five-room primary school. The community pushed for strong educators, and now there are five teachers there. It went from 10 to 170 students, 60 per cent of whom are girls.”

Sharma met her husband, Sagar, in Udaipur and planned to return to India shortly after giving birth. But three days after Samanyu was born she suffered a life-threatening stroke due to blood clots in her brain, which brought her plans to a screeching halt.

“Luckily I came out alive and not paralyzed, but I had to stay in Canada to be closely monitored by doctors before receiving clearance to fly,” she says. “In early May, Sharma finally brought her new family to visit her Udaipur family. “The elders were meeting and they all stood up and came over to greet me, which was amazing,” she says. Sharma hopes to join Free The Children’s Board of Advisors and eventually return to India full-time. “My husband and I want Samanyu to be exposed to poverty so that he can make socially conscious decisions in his own life,” she says. “There’s a Ladakhi proverb – Lamae Lam Stanchin – that means ‘paths will lead to more paths.’ I believe there are passionate about.”

“There’s a Ladakhi proverb – Lamae Lam Stanchin – that means ‘paths will lead to more paths.’ I believe you will always succeed if you do what you’re most passionate about.”

A once-obscure piece of scientific equipment is proving key to resolving a serious challenge facing the medical community.

**PUTTING A NEW SPIN ON SOME OLD PHYSICS**

BY TIM LOUGHEED

When Pierre Trudeau visited the UBC campus in February 1976, he candidly acknowledged that he knew nothing about cyclotrons but was excited about the research potential they offered for Canada. The then prime minister was in Vancouver to speak at the official dedication ceremony for TRIUMF, a facility on the university’s south campus that still houses the world’s largest example of a cyclotron, AKA a high energy particle accelerator.

What a difference a few decades can make. TRIUMF has since gained an international reputation for expertise in areas related to physics, chemistry, and nuclear medicine. And although most Canadians may still be hard-pressed to explain what a cyclotron is, it’s probably fair to say many have at least heard of a high energy particle accelerator – think Higgs boson. But the enhanced public profile of these once-obscure pieces of scientific equipment is also due to a series of events that have brought cyclotrons into the fold of modern medicine.

At the end of 2007, a research nuclear reactor in the small town of Chalk River, Ontario, broke down unexpectedly. It was the sole North American source of radioactive materials key to producing technetium-99m, an isotope required for sophisticated medical imaging that doctors now routinely use to diagnose and treat conditions such as cancer or heart disease.

When the reactor broke down, thousands of patients found themselves waiting for imaging procedures, and although the mechanical problem was resolved after a few hectic months, the “isotope crisis” had revealed that the reactor might well be on its last legs.

When Pierre Trudeau visited the UBC campus in February 1976, he candidly acknowledged that he knew nothing about cyclotrons but was excited about the research potential they offered for Canada. The then prime minister was in Vancouver to speak at the official dedication ceremony for TRIUMF, a facility on the university’s south campus that still houses the world’s largest example of a cyclotron, AKA a high energy particle accelerator.

Although aggregate numbers suggest that more boys than girls are involved in child labour, many of the types of work girls are involved in are invisible. It is estimated that roughly 90 per cent of children involved in domestic labour are girls. Even though the prevalence of child labour has been falling in recent years, everywhere apart from Sub-Saharan Africa, where it is actually increasing with regard to children aged 5-14, it continues to harm the physical and mental development of children and adolescents and interfere with their education.

(Sources: UNICEF and ILO)

BY CONNECTING THEM DIRECTLY TO THE MARKET AND INTRODUCING NEW TECHNOLOGY THAT ADDED VALUE TO THEIR CROPS, SHARMA’S TEAM HELPED PROVIDE INCOME TO PARENTS SO THEY’D HAVE THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM TO SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO SCHOOL.

**CHILD LABOUR**

Millions of children work to help their families in ways that are neither harmful nor exploitative. However, UNICEF estimates that around 150 million children aged 5-14 in developing countries, about 16 per cent of all children in this age group, are involved in child labour. International Labour Organization estimates that throughout the world, around 251 million children under 18 work, many full-time. In Sub-Saharan Africa, 24 children aged 5-17 work, compared to 1 in 8 in Asia Pacific and 1 in 10 in Latin America.

Although aggregate numbers suggest that more boys than girls are involved in child labour, many of the types of work girls are involved in are invisible. It is estimated that roughly 90 per cent of children involved in domestic labour are girls. Even though the prevalence of child labour has been falling in recent years, everywhere apart from Sub-Saharan Africa, where it is actually increasing with regard to children aged 5-14, it continues to harm the physical and mental development of children and adolescents and interfere with their education.

(Sources: UNICEF and ILO)
Dr. François Benard holds the BC Leadership Chair in Functional Cancer Imaging at UBC. As the medical community struggled with the problem, he was among the first to identify cyclotrons as a potential solution. They are already found in dozens of hospitals across the country — devices typically as big as a single car garage containing powerful magnets that spin electrically charged particles around at high speeds then direct them at small, coin-sized targets. Depending on the target’s makeup, the impact yields all sorts of isotopes. More specifically, if the target is made of the metal molybdenum, one of those isotopes is technetium-99m.

Technetium-99m is a short-lived, radioactive version of a fairly unremarkable silvery gray metal. Small quantities of it can be attached to biological agents with an affinity for particular organs or cancerous tumours. Once injected directly into the human body, the localized radiation can be turned into images that go well beyond the established success of X-ray imagery. Not only do they reveal the physical structure of what is happening beneath the skin, but also the otherwise invisible biochemical interactions that are occurring at the same time.

As exotic as this procedure might sound, it has become a routine undertaking in the last 20 years, one that is now carried out on millions of patients every year. Benard has been interested in this powerful technology for even longer, since his student days at the Université de Sherbrooke, where his father had been among the researchers who helped establish the medical school.

The cyclotron’s ability to produce technetium has been known since 1971, but the finding held little medical interest while the Chalk River reactor was doing its job. Thomas Ruth, senior research scientist at TRIUMF, credits Benard with reminding a community in crisis of this valuable piece of old news.

“What we’ve achieved is showing that we could scale things up substantially, by an amount of 10 times,” said Benard. “Essentially the milestone is moving away from pilot scale to real-life quantities that make it useful for urban areas.”

Researchers at cyclotron facilities in Edmonton, Alberta and Sherbrooke, Quebec, are also close to demonstrating their own ability to meet regional imaging needs. If similar achievements can be made in other parts of the country, Canada will become the first place in the world to free itself from the constraints of nuclear reactors as the sole source of technetium-99m.

For Professor Anna Celler of the university’s Department of Radiology, this milestone seemed more like a trip down memory lane. As part of the project team, she took part in calculations of a cyclotron’s isotope output, just as she had done for her PhD research decades earlier.

“It was very natural and I enjoyed it,” she said, recalling a peak period in cyclotron research. “Investigations of different radioisotopes using cyclotrons is something that was done more in the 70s and 80s than it is being done now.”

Even so, Celler added that this accomplishment may well be a sign that cyclotrons are hitting their scientific stride once again. Besides solving the immediate problem of technetium-99m, the same approach can turn out a wide range of different isotopes, each suited for a specific type of medical imaging.

Pierre Trudeau might not have fully understood what a cyclotron is, but he was right to be excited. “We are involved in other projects, creating medically important radioisotopes,” says Celler. “People realize that the cyclotron can be used, and the expertise is here.”

## Molybdenum-99

Molybdenum-99 decays into Technetium-99m, a short-lived medical radioisotope used in 80% of nuclear medicine procedures. Canada’s NRU reactor at Chalk River, ON, and the Netherlands’ HFR-Petten reactor together account for nearly two-thirds of the world’s supply.
Many people talk about making the world a better place. And there are those who go out and make it happen. On November 14, at the Four Seasons in downtown Vancouver, we celebrated six members of the alumni UBC community who see the need for change as a personal responsibility. You can read their full bios on our website.

The Clock Tower and the Anarchists

By Erwin Wodarczak

The Ladner Clock Tower is a well-established landmark of UBC’s Vancouver campus, but when first proposed in the 1960s, as with many things during that era, it was the focus of controversy.

The tower was a gift from Leon J. Ladner. He was the son of British Columbia pioneers, born and raised in the town that bears his family name. He went on to co-found the prominent law firm Ladner Downs and served as an MP from 1921 to 1930. Ladner was also a long-time supporter of the university. A founding member of Convocation, it was Ladner who in May 1921 moved the resolution urging the establishment of a new campus at Point Grey. He was also a member of Senate from 1955 to 1961, and of the Board of Governors from 1957 to 1966.

In a letter to UBC President John B. Macdonald, dated July 4, 1966, Leon Ladner announced his gift of $100,000 (later increased to $150,000) for the construction of a clock and bell tower. He intended it as a tribute to the founding pioneers of the province – in particular his father and uncle, Thomas and William Ladner. He
also hoped that the clock tower would serve as an inspiration to students.

When that clock tower is completed and the clock rings out, I hope it will remind the young students that not only does time go by, but that the hours of our university are very precious and the use of those hours will seriously affect the success, the happiness and the future of their lives.

The project was officially announced by the university in July 1970. According to the press release, the tower was originally envisioned at the top of the new administration building planned for the corner of University Boulevard and Wesbrook Crescent. Ladner felt the building’s proposed eight stories would not make it the ideal location.

In October 1967, Griffin’s plans called for a 140-foot-tall four-sided carillon tower, with seven-foot clock-faces at the top of each side that would be illuminated at night. Together with light projected through coloured glass in vertical slits down the sides of the tower, the clock was intended to catch the attention of passers-by around campus as well as seawarriors on the waters off Point Grey.

The carillon consisted of 350 bells, including 61 Flemish bells, 61 harp bells, 80 celeste bells, 61 quarte bells and 25 English tuned bells. The “bells” were actually small bronze bars, made from the same metal as traditional cast bells. When the bars were struck with small metal hammers, the melody would be amplified from the top of the tower through 12 speakers.

The design also included a 100-seat terrace fitted into the natural contours of the surrounding landscape, where spectators could sit and watch musicians play the carillon using a console or keyboard. This part of the project was later abandoned. The console was installed in a small concrete building beside the tower. The carillon could be played manually from the console, or automatically using nylin/rolls with hooks punched in them, similar to those used on old-fashioned player pianos. In 1997, Gutstien told The Ubyssey, “I am sure that the donor would have been pleased to see the tower completed in 1970.”

Ladner dismissed the idea of using the money for books, saying, “books are the provincial government’s responsibility.” He later pointed out that he had already established two scholarships at UBC; that he had promised another gift for the new Student Union Building; and that his other education-related foundations and gifts amounted to $30,000.

Ladner also claimed that he consulted with student leaders, both after his initial offer to the university and during the initial planning stages. Peter Brandt, former AMS president (1966-67) had a different perspective, recalling that the consultation was rather limited. He just told us one afternoon over lunch that we are going to have the tower. He never consulted with us about the location, the form, the function of the space in front of Main Library. It was “jerked” out of us.”

For student activists, the issue still wasn’t settled. In The Ubyssey on 27 October 1967, an article by Donald Gustien began, “What could you do with $500,000 at UBC? You could buy 50,000 books. You could give $5000 to every student. Or, better still, you could throw it away. You could build a clock and bell tower next to the UBC library.”

Gustien called the clock tower “a functional, social and visual irrelevancy” — it had no use as a landmark, and reduced the multi-use function of the space in front of Main Library.

Other opponents of the clock tower resisted to more direct action. In October 1968 a man was arrested while vandalizing the tower. The official report noted that locks had been forced open, some light fixtures broken, and the concrete structure spray-painted. The incident occurred a week before the student occupation of the Faculty Club.

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In October 1968, a man was arrested while vandalizing the tower. The official report noted that locks had been forced open, some light fixtures broken, and the concrete structure spray-painted. The incident occurred when students could expect an official dedication, he answered, “I won’t be part of a ceremony that gives the benefit of anarchists.”

A modest ceremony was held on 19 August 1969 to honour Leon Ladner’s gift to UBC. Guests included Premier W.A.C. Bennett, Lt.-Gov. John Nicholson, and some other invited guests.

The affair was not publicized, and guests were specifically requested not to make any public statements about it. After dinner, Ladner made a brief speech, unveiled the plaque and dedicated the clock and carillon to the university. On a pre-arranged signal from a campus patrolman, public speakers were turned on and a short recital at the carillon. The music could be heard across campus.

Over the years, controversies surrounding the building of the Ladner Clock Tower have gradually faded away. Music broadcast from the tower has become an integral part of public ceremonies every spring and fall. It is still the butt of jokes, particularly in The Ubyssey, which has published pictures of the towers. The music often do not illustrate the description of any political act; and if anything is viewed positively — even with affection. 5
Jay Brown, who earned an MFA in Creative Writing from UBC in 2010, is a writer and librarian living and working in Toronto. His short fiction has appeared in The Vancouver Review, Grain, Prairie Fire, the anthology Darwin's Bastards, and The Journey Prize Stories 23 & 25. He is currently at work on a novel.

But why? It’s true that there’s been no proven economic incentive for exploring the vast opening beneath our feet. Hopes for floating layers of valuable gases or other energy stores were dashed completely when the last of the Exxon Sanctity probes finished its scan. Empty. Empty. Empty. H.E.S. has largely become an academic discipline; our funds come from those dollars meant to service the public good.

All of you at one time or another, I’m sure, have envisioned careers post-graduation as vaudeville slugs across earth’s inner arc to explore and sample and illuminate that long mysterious underground. Easily harvested resources aside, the inner earth – what the late philosopher Thomas Asch termed “the coreling world” – remains a space with virtually unlimited exploration potential. You young graduates wish to know the function of the bioluminescence of the bacterial colonies that glow in giant quartzite stalactites below Lake Superior, or the nature of the condensation that forms in the ovine fields of the Shetland plate. You dream of that instance in which you first pivot downward on your harnesses, remove your protective masks, face for a moment that awesome stretch of darkness, and hear the unmeditated humming of the entire deep against your ear drums. In short, I have no doubt that you were driven here by curiosity. What’s happened to the world’s curiosity? As we move forwards we are also always moving backwards, longing for the way things were before great change swept us into this unknown world.

We regressively often prefer to fish in stagnant but familiar waters and reel in the giant dead fish of the past, paint them in pastel colours and display them for sale on the dock as though they were fresh and not rotten. Things are as they’ve always been, we say, not like this. We are so afraid of change that we are capable of ignoring it even as it occurs right before our eyes. I’ve got something stuck on the wall just in front of my desk at home. It’s a framing of the simple image of a stick figure with horns and a little forked tail, a sort of devil. It’s a rubbing taken from the first descending platform at Pelly Bay, a tiny doodle etched into the metal of the bench. The design was embossed into it there: circles and sharp lines. I discovered the etching as I was nervously running my fingers back and forth across the metal of the bench. The design was embossed into it there: circles and sharp lines. It was inscribed from where I sat, but I traced at its notches over and over again, like a monk rubbing his prayer beads. Of course, when the platform finally emerged out of the tunnel my attention was entirely consumed by the void.

For almost an hour we simply hung there, now subliminally small against a space so massive – yet boundless. Hot, dank, black. The proportion of that emptiness, which sucks at your dangling boots, does strange things to the unprepared mind. There are ancient forces at work within this vast sphere of space, winds whose heat hint at the infernal temperatures of the middle, a low, consuming hum whose timbre you will no doubt recognize in some forgotten organ of your body. We do not like or trust emptiness. We do not warrant it in the world of our imagination. When you are not in it, you fear it, seek the anchoring firmness of solidity. But when you are in it, the emptiness subdues you. Sea divers who’ve dropped down in weighted suits into the darkness of the deep sea speak of a similar calmness. In unbounded space, size is meaningless and our minds expand and inhabit it all at once.

In a way, it is the devil down there. It is things as we do not wish them to be. It is the devil pulled back on a monstrous fact that we sail through space not on solid rock but on a fragile overturning bubble. Italy, the firm and aperted. Those are the instincts, radical and primitive, which assail so gathered here in this hall. It is the will of the world that the genie be shoved back and the bottle, stoppered and forgotten. I will share with you now a thing you will never have heard before. I descended into the borehole within the first year of its opening and provided consultation to the engineers who designed and operated the Sanctity probes. We were operating under the assumption that the shape of the hollowness was more or less symmetrical. That is, the earth’s crust was roughly 25-35 kilometres thick at any given location and the shape of the void was spherical. Which turned out to be true. We were also operating under the even deeper
assumption that we were the first humans to have made this discovery. But there we were wrong.

There had never been a borehole drilled through the earth’s crust before but there have been plenty of human visitors.

Thirty kilometres is a fair distance but not so far that natural openings—typically of volcanic origin—have appeared on their own from time to time. These are fragile passages, with relatively brief lifespans, that have permitted ancient transit. And as proof, the ceiling world holds relics of these earlier times. In recent decades, human bodies have transited relatively little of the openings beyond any of the historic eight great boreholes, but the Sanctity probes searched far and wide. Below the thermal plumes of Polynesian they found what certainly appeared to be intricate carvings—no more than seven hundred years old—all along a lip of kimberlite whose vent may once have led all the way to the surface. Underneath a graduated fault, where the Nazca plate subducts under the Pacific, there is a narrow shelf some eight kilometres long which comes to a singular point roughly 15 metres wide, a tiny isthmus, like a precariously floating dais. Seated there, in a tight row, are nearly 70 figures whose flesh was long ago blasted to dust. What circumstances left them there? It’s impossible to know. But I believe that these are the skeletons of those ancient who refused the call to return and instead preferred, for all time, to bravely bear witness on the reality of the opening beneath them. The earth closed above their heads and history allowed no mention of them.

We must face the possibility that this may happen again. That this is happening again. That knowledge is selective to the point of being predatory. 8 kilos what threatens it. There were once eight boreholes, now there is only one. The world is making a choice. We are beginning to understand once more and we will forget all that we’ve discovered to be true.

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And a final word. The world is not ending but it is ending. That is the truth. And the only way to know the truth is to seek it. To seek it with all your heart and all your mind and all your soul. And when you find it, you will be transformed. You will be changed. You will be a different person. And you will be free.
THE RAINBOW ROCKET
by Fiona Tinwei Lam, BA’86, MA’90
Oolichan Books
32 pages

In the digital age,oppable thumbs are not needed to flip through a book, but some reads - like The Rainbow Rocket, a children’s book by Fiona Tinwei Lam - are a visceral reminder of the book as a form for physical enjoyment. The cover is an explosion of colour on black matting that is smooth and pleasant to touch. Illustrated by Kristi Bridgeman, whose art has been praised for its models of the young boy, James, as he draws a rocket and on his next visit, she gives him a stone stamp with a tiny horse carved on top. When pressed on red ink - for his name in Chinese. Soon Poh-Poh starts to forget things and her words become “a jigsaw puzzle with pieces missing.” The Sunday visits move from her small art-filled apartment to a nursing home and finally the hospital. When she dies, the horse from James’ stone stamp and his drawing of the rainbow rocket carry him into an imaginative world where he falls asleep in his grandmother’s arms. While this dream is not enough to fill the gap left by Poh-Poh’s death. Ching Ming Day, a Chinese holiday to remember and honour ancestors, helps him integrate memory and loss. For children who have recently experienced loss or are about to, The Rainbow Rocket is a good place to start. It tells a story of a midden comprised of shells and human bones found during the construction of the ring road around the park. The shells were used to pave the road and the bones were left behind. Kheraj’s writing is sharp and his research extensive. The analysis builds on a cumulative scholarship of the topic that remembers and honours ancestors, helps him integrate memory and loss. The history of the park reaches back to an underwater peninsula with a wealth of marine life and mammals that sustained a pre-European population estimated at anywhere from 20,860 to 62,580. Whoi, the largest First Nations settlement in what is now Stanley Park, was so severely depopulated by early smallpox epidemics that it appeared empty to George Vancouver who, according to reports, was greeted by only 50 men when he entered the Georgia Straight. Kheraj says Whoi Whoi’s history in the park is lost in the tourist literature of the twentieth century. It has been replaced with totem poles transplanted from as far away as Alert Bay. Most striking is the story of a midden comprised of shells and human bones found during the construction of the ring road around the park. The shells were used to pave the road and the bones were left behind in the sun. Kheraj’s writing is sharp and his research extensive. The analysis builds on a cumulative scholarship of the topic that remembers and honours ancestors, helps him integrate memory and loss. The history of the park reaches back to an underwater peninsula with a wealth of marine life and mammals that sustained a pre-European population estimated at anywhere from 20,860 to 62,580. Whoi, the largest First Nations settlement in what is now Stanley Park, was so severely depopulated by early smallpox epidemics that it appeared empty to George Vancouver who, according to reports, was greeted by only 50 men when he entered the Georgia Straight. Kheraj says Whoi Whoi’s history in the park is lost in the tourist literature of the twentieth century. It has been replaced with totem poles transplanted from as far away as Alert Bay. Most striking is the story of a midden comprised of shells and human bones found during the construction of the ring road around the park. The shells were used to pave the road and the bones were left behind in the sun. The story of a midden comprised of shells and human bones found during the construction of the ring road around the park. The shells were used to pave the road and the bones were left behind in the sun. The story of a midden comprised of shells and human bones found during the construction of the ring road around the park. The shells were used to pave the road and the bones were left behind in the sun. The story of a midden comprised of shells and human bones found during the construction of the ring road around the park. The shells were used to pave the road and the bones were left behind in the sun. Whoi, the largest First Nations settlement in what is now Stanley Park, was so severely depopulated by early smallpox epidemics that it appeared empty to George Vancouver who, according to reports, was greeted by only 50 men when he entered the Georgia Straight. Kheraj says Whoi Whoi’s history in the park is lost in the tourist literature of the twentieth century. It has been replaced with totem poles transplanted from as far away as Alert Bay. Most striking is the story of a midden comprised of shells and human bones found during the construction of the ring road around the park. The shells were used to pave the road and the bones were left behind in the sun. Kheraj’s writing is sharp and his research extensive. The analysis builds on a cumulative scholarship of the topic that remembers and honours ancestors, helps him integrate memory and loss.
While some of us worked on our tars over the summer, Sean McBeth, BA’74, Dan Maxwell and Liam Fisher were busy preparing for a memorable journey. On July 11, 2013, the trio kayaked from Victoria to False Creek to honor Sean’s late friend, and mentor, Tyler Lewis, and raise funds for the foundation created in his memory. Tyler – a UBC engineering PhD candidate, gifted researcher and avid outdoorsman – died in a skiing accident in 2011. Training for the voyage was rigorous. On-water training typically lasted two to three hours, with longer sessions running six to nine hours. Dry-land training included gym sessions three times per four to six weeks, running, cycling, yoga and swimming multiple times a week.

The non-stop, arduous expedition had its challenges – the 135-km distance, paddling in the dark, nutrition maintenance, and strong tidal currents. “There was a point where we were paddling as hard as we could, and just barely creeping forward,” says Sean. The team prevailed, making the crossing in 16 hours and 46 minutes, raising more than $17,000 for the Tyler Lewis Clean Energy Research Foundation.

The Freezeway
While the Freezeway was conceived of exactly what Matt Gibbs, BA’76, DMD’77, has fantasized about hosting Saturday Afternoon at the Opera – On September 3, 2013, his fantasy became reality. The highly acclaimed Canadian tenor is the new host of CBC Radio 2’s Saturday Afternoon at the Opera and Backstage with Ben Heppner. Radio has been part of the Grammys and Juno-award winner’s life since he was a child – opening new worlds to him beyond his hometown in Dawson Creek, BC, and introducing him to a world that eventually included opera society for Canadians living with disabilities. She was awarded the Queen’s Jubilee Medal for her work with March of Dimes Canada and other voluntary organizations. Spindel joined Ontario March of Dimes in 1961 as executive director. • Tim Frick, PhD’74, MEd’78, has been inducted into the 2013 Basketball BC Hall of Fame. Frick is well known for his longstanding coaching career in Canada’s basketball wheelchair teams, including the BC Breakers Women’s Provincial Team and the Canadian Women’s Wheelchair Basketball National Team, who have won seven gold medals combined at both the Paralympic and World Championships under his tutelage. • Douglas Bing, BSc’69, MEd’78, retired after 35 years as a dentist and ran for the BC Liberal party for a seat in the provincial legislature. Bing, who was serving his third term as a Pitt Meadows City Councillor, is now the BC Liberal MLA for Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows electoral district.

A MEMORABLE PADDLE

A MEMORABLE PADDLE

Andy MacKinnon and others) with 250,000 copies sold to date, and co-authored the companion books, Plants of Northern BC and Plants of the Western Vancouver Island and Forest Parkland. Pojar’s joy in writing these guide books is having the opportunity to share his knowledge as well as his passion and love of plants with others. • Exciting times lie ahead for Susie Nute, BA’74, (nee Jung) and her husband. In November, they’ll attend conversation with their young pastor, Thomas Nute, MA’73, and in April 2014, their oldest son and his wife are expecting the family’s first grandchild.

The Freezeway is an 11-km year-round greenway that serves as a cycling path in the summer and converts into one of the world’s first curbside skating lanes in the winter. Its novel design, which began as his master’s thesis, received the Centre for Sustainable Living Design’s 2013 Goldscales international design competition. “Canadians (with many exceptions) often begrudgingly bathes the coming of the season,” says Gibbs. Accordingly, his design captures the typical suburban nature of the winter season by simultaneously promoting outdoor active lifestyles, sustainable forms of transportation, social activity and an iconic identity for the City of Edmonton. The Edmonton born and raised landscape architect has shared the idea with some staff and council members of the City of Edmonton and is hopeful that his concept will fit into the City’s vision for the future.

A FREEZEWAY FOR EDMONTON

Imagine ditching your car and your stressful rush-hour commute, donning a pair of skates, and gliding to work on a crisp winter’s day in Edmonton. That’s exactly what Matt Gibbs, BA’76, proposes with his award-winning design – the Freezeway. The Freezeway, an 11-km year-round greenway that serves as a cycling path in the summer and converts into one of the world’s first curbside skating lanes in the winter. Its novel design, which began as his master’s thesis, received the Centre for Sustainable Living Design’s 2013 Goldscales international design competition. “Canadians (with many exceptions) often begrudgingly bathes the coming of the season,” says Gibbs. Accordingly, his design captures the typical suburban nature of the winter season by simultaneously promoting outdoor active lifestyles, sustainable forms of transportation, social activity and an iconic identity for the City of Edmonton. The Edmonton born and raised landscape architect has shared the idea with some staff and council members of the City of Edmonton and is hopeful that his concept will fit into the City’s vision for the future.

A FREEZEWAY FOR EDMONTON

As a world leader in research on wireless communication networks, a scholar can achieve in the arts, humanities and sciences in Canada. • The Honourable Julian Fantino is an inspirational Catholic and First Nations leader who played a key role to bridge the cultural and generational needs of the peoples and citizens of BC and Canada and provide for the spiritual vitality of peoples of all faiths.” Point served as the first aboriginal lieutenant governor in the province, and is an 11-km year-round greenway that serves as a cycling path in the summer and converts into one of the world’s first curbside skating lanes in the winter. Its novel design, which began as his master’s thesis, received the Centre for Sustainable Living Design’s 2013 Goldscales international design competition. “Canadians (with many exceptions) often begrudgingly bathes the coming of the season,” says Gibbs. Accordingly, his design captures the typical suburban nature of the winter season by simultaneously promoting outdoor active lifestyles, sustainable forms of transportation, social activity and an iconic identity for the City of Edmonton. The Edmonton born and raised landscape architect has shared the idea with some staff and council members of the City of Edmonton and is hopeful that his concept will fit into the City’s vision for the future.

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works for the Calgary Stampedes in the events and entertainment department. Weeks after Calgarians experienced a devastating flood that immediately city, Titchener and her team worked relentlessly to ensure that the show would go on. Although hit by one of Canada’s largest natural disasters, community spirit prevailed and attendance records were broken at several of Titchener’s events — including the family event in which she arranged for 20 families to meet astronaut and Stampedes parade marshal, Chris Hadfield. Titchener described the 2013 Stampede as an opportunity of a lifetime and was grateful and humbled to be a part of it.

2010: Daniel Wood, 35, met his girlfriend, Jayde Wood (née-Wang), 28, in the Chern 100 lecture hall in 2007 during a chemistry 101 midterm. Six delightful years later they are now married and are eager to finishing their second degrees.
Ah, the twists of fate. If you'd told Ashley Howard 20 years ago that she would one day return to her home town to become UBC's Managing Director of Athletics, she might have laughed. A career in sport administration was not something she would have considered. High school graduates could have imagined back when she enrolled in the Faculty of Science at Queen's University, rather than the forested campus down the street.

Such an idea was still out of scope when she graduated from Queen’s, as it was when she began an MBA in International Business at the University of Victoria. Not even a lifelong interest in competitive sport, including her experience as co-captain of Canada’s National Women’s Ultimate Team that won the 2005 World Championship in Germany, spurred any such thought or interest. And it certainly wasn’t within her field of vision when she became a product and special projects manager with small firm during the rise and fall of dot com era.

Even when she moved to Scotland and put her business transformation skills to work in a high-performance sport environment, she still hadn’t considered a career in university sport. But after 15 years as a senior leader in two of Scotland’s leading sport organizations, she began to think about “back home.” When she and her husband – a design engineer she met during an undergraduate exchange year at Glasgow’s University of Strathclyde – contemplated bundling up the family to explore uncharted adventures in Vancouver, they got excited. And it was only after arriving back home that the opportunity she has today came into frame.

“The job was one of the first that caught my eye on my return to Vancouver. I was meeting with senior executives from a number of industries, and on many occasions, folk from my network independently flagged the UBC opportunity. I had already been working on my application.”

Not surprisingly, UBC isn’t an unfamiliar place to her. After 12 years as a senior leader in two of Scotland’s leading sport organizations, she had helped lead the organization through a period of change and transformation. Most recently, she served as CEO of Scottish Swimming, where she helped lead the organization through a period of sweeping change, growth and achievement: “I am proud to say that I am captivated on an ethical and strategically focused culture is key to the success of any organization, and that an environment of integrity, fairness and inclusivity is the most essential element within that culture, especially one undergoing change and transformation.”

For Howard, bringing substantial experience in leading sports organizations through periods of change and transformation, the potential to offer a comprehensive wellness program for the campus community: “That is something that is still in the developmental stages, but no matter how it takes shape, we know it will be a critical agenda going forward,” she says. Winning, leadership, resilience, teamwork – these are all core sporting traits, and they are all embraced by a UBC vision to be the healthiest campus on earth.”

Needless to say, a great deal has changed at UBC since those days. It looks different, feels different, and in some way is different than it was in the 1990s. After rigorous adherence to bold strategic plans implemented by the university’s leadership over the past two decades, UBC has a reputation commensurate with many of the world’s most respected research universities. Its ongoing evolution now includes a process of reimaging Athletics and Recreation, with an eye to ensuring long-term financial sustainability and sharpening the focus upon certain teams to enhance competitive success. An external review conducted in the spring of 2012, followed by a series of “think-tank” sessions involving campus representatives and independent experts, has resulted in a framework for a new competitive sport model – one that Howard is mandated with refining in concert with a representative advisory team.

“An executive is not the only one to be highly consultative, but with the understanding that the overarching objectives are athletic excellence; greater connectivity to strategic partners; broader engagement of the university community than ever before; and enhanced student learning, together with professional development opportunities for coaches and staff wherever possible. The task of refining the UBC Athletics and Recreation program will involve change and all the attendant challenge and strain. But Howard stresses that the intention is to build upon UBC’s historical strengths to create a ‘Made in Canada’ brand of university sport excellence, and one based on transparency and performance.”

“The job was one of the first that caught my eye on my return to Vancouver. I was meeting with senior executives from a number of industries, and on many occasions, folk from my network independently flagged the UBC opportunity. I had already been working on my application.”

Not surprisingly, UBC isn’t an unfamiliar place to her. Why would it be a personal honour students who grow up just beyond its gates? She learned to swim at the UBC Aquatic Centre as a child, and as a teenager, she attended summer tennis and volleyball camps at UBC and “hung out a bit.” She later worked for three consecutive summers on Point Grey while studying at Queen’s. “I worked with a UBC professor of medical genetics on coding the number eight chromosome and I also did a bit of research in the areas of philosophy and ethics,” she says with genuine modesty and just a hint of Scottish brogue.

To find out more about the sport review see: www.athletics.ubc.ca/sport-review/

Send your feedback to: feedback@gothunderbirds.ca
DOROTHY ANNE BARAGAR (NEE SHAW), 84[42], M'47

Born in Victoria on May 31, 1931, Dr. Knotts, World War II veteran and professor emeritus of mathematics at the University of Alberta, SUNY, died on February 23, 2013. Following graduation, Walter enlisted in the Canadian Army and was wounded in action in Italy in 1944. In 1945, he earned his doctorate degree in English literature from Harvard University and first began his teaching career at Ohio State University. Dr. Knotts began teaching English literature in 1953 at the University of Alabama, SUNY - something he would continue to do with passion and energy until his retirement in 1991. During his tenure, Dr. Knotts became a beloved mentor to countless students, and a faculty leader, serving as chair of the English department from the late 1970s through the 1990s. His particular area of expertise was the satirical works of Jonathan Swift and Alexander Pope. He had wide-ranging literary interests, always a rare occasion for anyone else to win. Sybil passed on in 2008. George is survived by his sons, Stephen, BS'77; daughters Margaret Fisher (Jack) and Johanne Sutton (Jim); six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and his cousin, Jerry Pladson.

DONALD NEILL WEATHERILL, 85[49]

Born in Kelowna on March 22, 1927, Donald Neill Weatherill passed into the arms of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on October 25, 2022. Surviving are his loving family and fond memories of those years, and was, along with wife Sybil, an avid dancer. Perhaps the highlight of his career was when he was chairman of the chemical contest team that won in 1961. In 1960 and George and Sybil moved to Qualicum Beach, where he quickly became active in a number of community organizations. A few years ago he took up bridge. He also enjoyed the game of Uptowns, and it was a rare occasion for anyone else to win. Sybil passed on in 2008. George is survived by his sons, Stephen, BS'77; daughters Margaret Fisher (Jack) and Johanne Sutton (Jim); six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; his sister, Marion Wheaton; and his cousin, Jerry Pladson.

HERMAN SCHUETZ (HERMAN SCHUETZ), 86[42], M'47

Walter was born in Victoria and raised in North Battleford. His engineering studies at Saskatoon were interrupted by WW II. During the war he volunteered and was first stationed in 1940 as an infantry officer. After the war they settled in Vancouver, where George completed his B.A. and MA in mathematics (thesis: “The Legendre Equation of the First Kind”) at UBC. During his career he taught at Burnaby South, and Delbrook and Carson Graham in North Vancouver. He also taught at UBC’s commerce school. This co-authored a Euclidean geometry textbook, served on the board of Highland’s United Church, was on the executive of the BC Mathematics Teachers Association, published a book for a variety of bands, and was, along with wife Sybil, an avid dancer. Perhaps the highlight of his career was when he was chairman of the chemical contest team that won in 1961. In 1960 and George and Sybil moved to Qualicum Beach, where he quickly became active in a number of community organizations. A few years ago he took up bridge. He also enjoyed the game of Uptowns, and it was a rare occasion for anyone else to win. Sybil passed on in 2008. George is survived by his sons, Stephen, BS'77; daughters Margaret Fisher (Jack) and Johanne Sutton (Jim); six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; his sister, Marion Wheaton; and his cousin, Jerry Pladson.
Eric first came to Penticton on November 20, 1924, aged 76 - sweet and gracious to the end. His lively spirit will always brighten the hearts of his wife of 68 years, Kathy (Red). His six children, Eric (David) Abbott, Tim (Tina), and Roger (Kathy) Konkel, will miss their father. Ron and friends, Grandchildren Nathaniel and Avi Konkel will miss their grandfather. Eric was born in Trail, BC, he was the youngest of six to Swiss immigrants; his mother was a sister of Allan Albert Davidson. He was predeceased by his wife, Barbara, and their daughter, Nancy. He was predeceased by his mother, Betsy (Hastie) Abbott, were born in Vancouver on January 16, 1935, and was talking art, as always, in his hospital bed. Bill always returned with sketches and watercolours. Bill was still sketching. Bill met his loving wife of 52 years, Patsy, at UBC and they loved to travel. They travelled to Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and all around North America, including the Skagit Valley. Again, Bill always returned with sketches and watercolours. Bill was still sketching. Bill was a FCGA, and a life member; in 2008, CGA-Canada named him one of Canada’s top 100 CGAs of the past 100 years. George spent 28 years teaching at UBC. Upon his retirement in 1991, the Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration honoured him by establishing the George Gorelik Prize in his name. The George Gorelik Prize is awarded to the student obtaining the highest standing in financial accounting. His other great passion was his obituary state, this is a description of the person and their accomplishments. His connection to UBC extended far beyond his career in accounting. While he was a part-time student at UBC, he took a new position at the UBC Botanical Gardens. From 1970 to 1981 Chris worked as a scientific officer at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation in Australia. It was in Grade 7 that Verena met – and began dating – future husband Ramon Kobos. After graduation from high school, she attended Trinity Western University in Abbotsford, British Columbia, and Simon Fraser University, where she completed her undergraduate degree in both history and English. She then continued her studies at UBC’s Faculty of Education, obtaining her bachelor’s degree in education and her teaching certificate. Verena’s passion for literature found its outlet in her career as an educator in the ensuing 14 years, as she taught at various secondary schools in Richmond including Steveston, Lincoln, Palmer and McNichol. As a teen and young adult, she was very involved with the 11th Richmond Scouts, both as a Venturer and a Rover. She was also a member of the Aquanauts Swim Club. In 2009, and Ramon married four years later, they welcomed daughter Keira. As a first-time mother, Verena brought her desire for connecting with others and her enthusiasm for being an active and involved resident to a new level as she dove head-first into a variety of local fundraising events and service activities. She volunteered with her husband, daughters, Samantha, Drew, Easton, Jordyn, Daniel, Robyn, Lea, Joshua and great-grandchildren, Mikayla. John will be remembered for his engaging manner, his kind and generous heart, his teasing and gentle wit, all of which will be greatly missed by his family and friends. If desired, donations may be made in John’s name to the Victoria Symphony Society.

Verena Marie Klose (née Chen) passed away on March 27, 2013. She was a lifelong Richmond resident, coming from Hong Kong in 1949, to parents Doris and Teasley Chen. She attended Ferri Elementary and both R.C. Palmer Secondary and Richmond Secondary. It was in Grade 7 that Verena met – and began dating – future husband Ramon Kobos. After graduation from high school, she attended Trinity Western University in Abbotsford, British Columbia, and Simon Fraser University, where she completed her undergraduate degree in both history and English. She then continued her studies at UBC’s Faculty of Education, obtaining her bachelor’s degree in education and her teaching certificate. Verena’s passion for literature found its outlet in her career as an educator in the ensuing 14 years, as she taught at various secondary schools in Richmond including Steveston, Lincoln, Palmer and McNichol. As a teen and young adult, she was very involved with the 11th Richmond Scouts, both as a Venturer and a Rover. She was also a member of the Aquanauts Swim Club. In 2009, and Ramon married four years later, they welcomed daughter Keira. As a first-time mother, Verena brought her desire for connecting with others and her enthusiasm for being an active and involved resident to a new level as she dove head-first into a variety of local fundraising events and service activities. She volunteered with her husband, daughters, Samantha, Drew, Easton, Jordyn, Daniel, Robyn, Lea, Joshua and great-grandchildren, Mikayla. John will be remembered for his engaging manner, his kind and generous heart, his teasing and gentle wit, all of which will be greatly missed by his family and friends. If desired, donations may be made in John’s name to the Victoria Symphony Society. 

Jennifer Klose was born in Chiew, England, and from a young age developed a love of nature and the outdoors. He and his cousin, David, shared these interests and Cheri learned a lot from their time spent together. Chris had a great sense of humour and was always ready to make people laugh. He was hard working and driven by his belief in the environment. Chris pursued studies in the biological sciences and was keen to make a difference in the world. He obtained a PhD from Southampton University and became a senior scientific officer with the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. During these years, he spent a year in Ottawa with the Canada Department of Agriculture before accepting a research fellowship, and soon after returning to England he decided to take a new position at the UBC Botanical Gardens. From 1970 to 1978 Chris
was a research scientist and associate professor in the departments of the Botanical Garden, Botany and Plant Science. He left UBC to pursue a country lifestyle, which was his lifelong dream. After several years in the Nelson area, Chris and his wife moved to Bridgeville where they had a cattle ranch, forestry consulting company and tree nursery. Chris also conducted park interpretation programs at Kettle River Provincial Park. In the mid ’90s, they relocated their operation to Lumby, where they lived until 2010 when Chris decided to retire to the Turtle Valley near Chase. He was continuing to pursue his many diverse interests when he died unexpectedly from a sudden heart attack on December 10, 2012. He is survived by his wife, Alison; sons Andres (Arlette), David and Ross; two grandchildren, Katie and Thomas; his former wife, Joan; mother of his two oldest sons; and various relatives in Britain.

LEONARD MARTIN WEDEPOHL 1933 – 2013. Cherished husband of Sylvia; father to Martin and Graham; stepfather to Daniel Baron, Dr. Lorraine Baron, and Roger Baron; brother of Dr. Peter Wedepohl; and brother-in-law of Denis St. Juan. In 1955, Martin obtained his BSc from the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. His research in power line carrier protection earned him a PhD from the University of Manitoba in 1973. He returned to BC in 1985, to pursue a career in establishing and promoting the establishment of UBC Okanagan, as well as the Faculty of Engineering. In 1985, he was instrumental in establishing the Manitoba High Voltage Direct Current Research Laboratory and the Manitoba Micro-Electronics Institute. He received the Province’s “Order of the Bison,” and was conferred “Honorary Citizen of the City of Winnipeg.”

His research in power line carrier protection earned him a PhD from the University of Manitoba. As chairman of U2000 he spearheaded the establishment of UBC Okanagan, as well as the Faculty of Engineering. In 1985, he was instrumental in establishing the Manitoba High Voltage Direct Current Research Laboratory and the Manitoba Micro-Electronics Institute. He received the Province’s “Order of the Bison,” and was conferred “Honorary Citizen of the City of Winnipeg.”

In 1979, he was appointed Dean of Applied Science at UBC. He served as chairman of the Science Council (the Arts, Science and Technology Council of BC, and the BC Hydro Electric Corporation. In 1985, he was instrumental in establishing the Canadian Institute for Industrial Technology. In 1998, he was conferred the title of Dean of Applied Science Emeritus, UBC, and adjunct professor at the University of Manitoba. He continued his research cooperating with the Manitoba HVDC Centre, and the universities of Manitoba and Stellenbosch. As chairman of U2000 he spearheaded the establishment of UBC Okanagan, as well as the Faculty of Engineering. He received many awards for his research in engineering, but cherished most the faculty teaching prize from his students, whom he hoped to inspire with a sense of creativity.

Please submit obituaries to trek.magazine@ubc.ca including “In Memoriam: first name, last name, class year” in the subject line, or mail to:
UBC Alumni Association
6351 Cecil Green Park Road
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1

Obituaries should be 300 words or less (submissions may be edited for length and clarity where necessary. Mail original photos or email high resolution images – preferably 300 dpi.)
It’s been almost 30 years since William Gibson’s debut novel, "Neuromancer," struck a chord with readers and won science fiction’s “triple crown” – the Hugo, Nebula and Philip K. Dick awards. "Neuromancer" popularized the concept of cyberspace (a word Gibson coined) long before the ubiquity of the internet and virtual technologies. Often referred to as a “noir prophet,” Gibson is credited with predicting the rise of reality TV, video games and the Internet.

By the age of 12, Gibson had dreamed of becoming a science fiction writer, but it wasn't until he enrolled in a science fiction literature course at UBC that he first attempted to write it. Although his first short story was published, Gibson didn't seriously pursue writing until several years later. He assumed that the genre had become too inherently conservative to welcome the literary and pop influences he hoped to bring to it.

Clearly, his fears were unfounded. Gibson is the author of nine novels, co-author of one, and has also written screenplays and non-fiction. He is lauded for breaking the science fiction mold and has been hailed as one of the most important and influential novelists of the past two decades.

He lives in Vancouver with his wife, Deborah, BA’77, MA’79, PhD’99, and their two cats, Beauman, a novel, and Superclumping Cat Litter, a history course.

With drawing support from Chris Marker’s "La Jetée," Gibson's science fiction crossed the daydream and futurist lines. "Neuromancer" was one of the first to play with the idea that corporations were the dominant form of intelligence here. I don't think I'd ever heard the term "multinational corporation" before. And seeing Chris Marker’s "La Jetée" for the first time, in a film history course.

For more of my fellow humans...

What is your latest purchase? Probably some small cast-metal trucks my father gave me as a child. I wouldn’t want an epitaph. I used to think I looked a bit like Samuel Beckett, but it’s getting harder to see.

What makes you laugh out loud? Perfect strangers on Twitter, often as not.

What is your pet peeve? That ranking thing again. I don’t really think that way. I admire Jorge Luis Borges, but then I admire Elmore Leonard, too. I think more in terms of galaxies than lists. What would you like your epitaph to say? I wouldn’t want an epitaph. They’re like tattoos for the dead. Or monogrammed shirts.

What is your major in life? Conversation.

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With the support of UBC alumni worldwide, UBC and the UBC Alumni Association are building a home for alumni to reconnect with their alma mater and each other. The new Alumni Centre will foster entrepreneurship, networking, mentoring and lifelong learning. To contribute to your Alumni Centre, visit alumnicentre.ubc.ca