

## Growing bonsai trees fuels chef's creative spirit

VIU Chef Gordon Cowen is passionate about cooking, but he's self-admittedly obsessed with growing bonsai trees.

Cowen's half-acre lot in central Nanaimo is decorated with more than 1,000 miniature maples, azaleas, pine junipers and other species - all deliberately grown and shaped by his own hand.

The bonsai creations fill up two greenhouses, almost his entire backyard and his house. It takes about two hours a day to water them all.

A chef in VIU's Culinary Arts program for 15 years, Cowen began creating bonsai trees when he read a newspaper article about bonsai master David Rowe who lives in Qualicum Beach.

"I looked up his phone number and pestered him about teaching a class," says Cowen. "Bonsai was always something I wanted to learn because the Japanese culture intrigues me. When I met my wife, who is Japanese, we had lots to talk about and my interest in bonsai is an extension of that."

Creating bonsai is a good way to develop patience, adds Cowen.

"I like what this says about me - that I'm willing to be disciplined enough to make bonsai happen," he says. "I like that it's so impractical. The trees are created for esthetic purposes only. The Japanese

believe it can take up to 50 years to grow a really good pine bonsai tree.

"I feel that it's important for a person to be willing to go to impractical lengths to make our world more esthetically interesting."

Owning a bonsai tree in Japan is seen as a status symbol, says Cowen, with some bonsai costing hundreds of thousands of dollars.

"I've heard of business men

**"I feel that it's important for a person to be willing to go to impractical lengths to make our world more esthetically interesting."**

— Chef Gordon Cowen

in Japan who own an expensive bonsai tree but only display it in their homes to impress visitors. They pay someone to store and look after it the rest of the year."

Cowen's interest in bonsai often consumes his vacation time. Four years ago, he took two months off work at VIU to study in Japan, serving as an apprentice for a bonsai master.

"It was an interesting experience," says



VIU chef Gordon Cowen is passionate about creating miniature bonsai trees.

Cowen. "Some bonsai apprentices work seven days a week, sun up to sun down, typically 12 hour days. My schedule wasn't that intense, but training can be rigorous."

He also studied for a month in California at a nursery housing more than 20,000 bonsai trees. All this training is in preparation for Cowen's lifelong dream - to open a bonsai nursery in Nanaimo as a retirement project.

In fact, he's already selling bonsai trees. Last year, when VIU's Discovery Room was renovated, the University purchased one large bonsai and eight small ones for table centerpieces.

"People seem to like them," says Cowen. "When people appreciate what I've created, it makes all the work, effort and time that goes into growing bonsai worthwhile."



Departments and faculties are encouraged to get involved in VIU's Open House, Oct. 2, 10 am - 3 pm.

## Save the Date for VIU's Open House Oct. 2

Mark your calendars for the Open House at the Nanaimo Campus on Friday, October 2, 10 am to 3 pm.

"We invite the entire campus community to get involved," says Dr. Tina McComb, Director of Enrolment Management.

"Open House is a vital event in our overall enrolment management efforts and we need everyone's help to make it successful."

This year's Open House, sponsored by Coast Capital Savings, will include the usual "Expo" event in the upper cafeteria where faculties and departments can staff booths to highlight their program or service areas.

Departments and faculties are also encouraged to showcase all that VIU has to offer by hosting program specific activities, games, tours or interactive demonstrations.

"We're encouraging fun, creative and interactive activities within program or department areas to engage and build stronger connections with the public," adds McComb.

There will be complimentary parking all day, free golf shuttle carts to transport visitors around the campus, prizes and free refreshments.

Last year's Open House attracted more than 300 community members, including students of all ages and seniors.

Open House is a joint initiative of the Enrolment Management Office and University Relations.

To be part of this key event, visit [www.viu.ca/openhouse](http://www.viu.ca/openhouse) or email [university.relations@viu.ca](mailto:university.relations@viu.ca).



Liberal Studies professor Dr. Mark Blackell crosses the finish line at the Boston Marathon in April with a personal best time of three hours, seven minutes and 31 seconds.

## Prof runs 'destination marathon'

Liberal Studies professor Dr. Mark Blackell qualified for the most prestigious race in the world this year - the Boston Marathon.

Blackell completed the grueling 42.2 kilometre run in April, achieving a personal best of three hours, seven minutes and 31 seconds.

"The Boston Marathon was amazing," says Blackell. "I suppose you have to be a bit of a masochist to enjoy these things. It was a miserable day weather-wise, with rain in our faces and wind coming off the ocean.

"I was constantly rubbing my eyes because my eyelids kept drooping and closing. I had to force my eyes to see the hundreds of thousands of spectators lining the course. I heard them, all the cheering supporters, despite the terrible weather. It was fantastic."

He was proud to be among the 30,000 "running geeks" from all over the world, who qualified for the race.

Blackwell started running two years ago after being diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes.

"The diagnosis was a complete shock," he says. "At first, I ran to help manage my medical condition, but now I run because I love it."

Blackell's first major running event was the Vancouver Marathon, which he completed last year in three hours, 14

minutes. That qualified him for Boston, which he describes as the 'ultimate destination' running event.

For the Vancouver Marathon, Blackell raised about \$1,600 for the Canadian Diabetes Association, but while training for Boston, he raised almost \$3,000 for the Vancouver Island Mental Health Society (formerly the Columbian Centre Society).

"I've been a volunteer Board member for about five years so it's a cause close to my heart," he explains.

"The Society, which started 40 years ago, provides housing and rehabilitation for people in the mid and north island region who are released from the mental health ward of a hospital. We help provide transition care for people to get back on their feet."

Various levels of housing support are offered, from 24-hour licensed care facilities, to graduated levels of care for semi-independent living.

"I thought it was a great cause for the Boston Marathon and I'm happy I could help out. I'd like to thank all the VIU employees and other supporters who donated towards my fundraising campaign."

What's Blackell's next goal? "To run a marathon in under three hours."

## Running for Team Canada

Jeremy Clegg, who teaches in the Accounting department in VIU's Faculty of Management, ran for Team Canada at the 2015 Trail Running World Championships, held in Annecy, France in May.

Team Canada's men's team finished 10th out of 26 countries. Clegg's individual race time was 13 hours, 12 minutes and 47 seconds.

The grueling race had elevation changes of up to 5,300 metres. "It was the equivalent of running up Mount Benson seven times from Witchcraft Lake," says Clegg.

"It wasn't my best race, but it was amazing to be part of it. I had badly injured my ankle in a training run six weeks before the big race. I couldn't walk on it and took a week off of training. Ultimately in the race in France, that injury forced me to run differently and

that impacted my performance. But still, being able to represent Canada and to be part of an event like that was something I'll never forget."

In 2009, Clegg took up running to lose a few pounds. "I was 32 years old, weighed 270 pounds and had never been a runner or involved in any competitive sports," he says. "My main motivation was weight loss."

After losing about 120 pounds, Clegg discovered that he'd found his new passion. "I discovered very quickly that I really love running, so I've stuck with it," he says. "I run every day. It helps with my energy levels and sanity."

Clegg often runs in Nanaimo with a group called Runners of Compassion, a trail runners group that fundraises annually to help under privileged children access sports.



VIU Accounting professor Jeremy Clegg running for Team Canada in Annecy, France.



Nurse practitioner Diane Middagh (right) and Medical Office Assistant Heather Carr staff VIU's new Medical Clinic.

## VIU Medical Clinic opens for students

VIU's new Medical Clinic located in Building 200 at the Nanaimo Campus opened in May to provide no-cost medical health care to enrolled students.

The Medical Clinic, now part of the Health and Wellness Centre, is staffed by Nurse Practitioner Diane Middagh and supported by Medical Office Assistant Heather Carr.

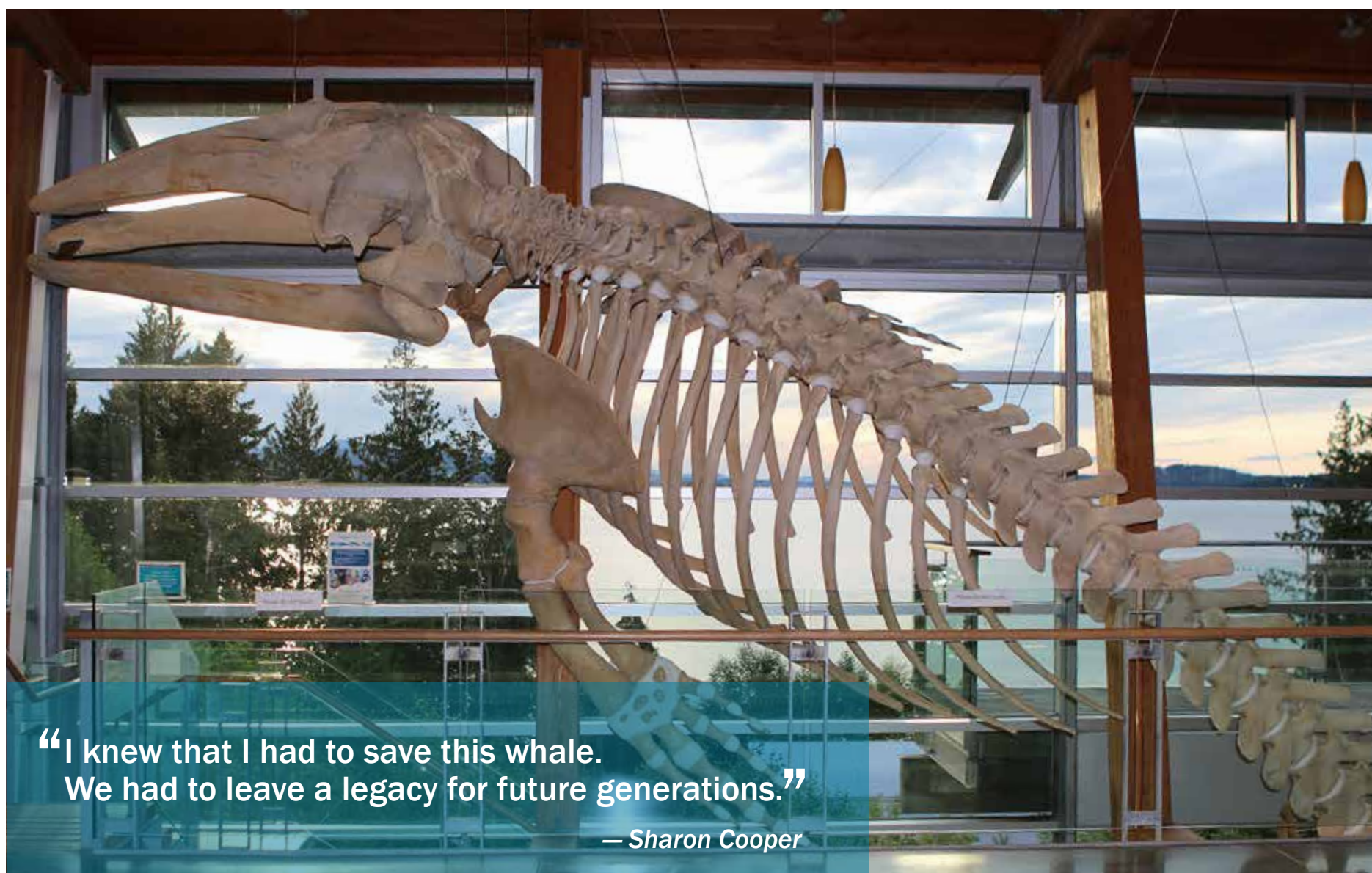
"We encourage faculty and staff to let students know that this excellent new service is in place," says Dr. Carrie Chassels, Executive Director, Student Affairs.

The Medical Clinic provides health care services, education and preventive medi-

cine and involves students in responsible health and wellness.

The Medical Clinic offers many services including biopsy, suturing and stitches; birth control and family planning; consultations; counselling; diagnostic services; laboratory services and referral to radiological services; lab testing, urinalysis, cultures; physical examinations and more.

The clinic is open Monday to Friday, 9 am to 3:30 pm. For appointments, students can call 250.740.6620 or drop in. For more information, visit [www.viu.ca/health](http://www.viu.ca/health).



No bones about it – the new grey whale exhibit at the Deep Bay Marine Field Station is an impressive sight.

## Grey whale exhibit leaves legacy for future generations

The unveiling of a 10-metre long grey whale skeleton at Vancouver Island University's Deep Bay Marine Field Station in Bowser was an emotional moment for Sharon Cooper of Sc'ianew First Nation.

Cooper first saw the body of the grey whale five years ago after it washed up at East Sooke Park near Victoria.

"I was so sad," said Cooper. "People had carved their initials into the whale's body and huge chunks of blubber were removed. I knew that I had to save this whale. We had to leave a legacy for future generations and make a difference."

On June 23, 2015, Cooper's vision became a reality. She joined more than 160 people who gathered at VIU's Deep

Bay Marine Field Station for the grand unveiling of the Underwater Harvesters Association Grey Whale Exhibit.

The whale skeleton hangs from the ceiling as a grand centerpiece on the main floor of the Field Station. More than 2,000 volunteer hours went into the project.

"It's spectacular," said Ken Magnus, a retired radiologist who alone put in more than 700 volunteer hours. "It's been an absolute pleasure working with the team who put this together."

Field Station Manager Brian Kingzett and VIU's Advancement & Alumni Relations Office launched a unique "Raise the Whale" online fundraising campaign and sold more than 160 bones to

raise the \$70,000 to cover the costs of creating the exhibit.

With support from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and VIU, the whale's body was towed from Beecher Bay to Sc'ianew First Nation land where it was respectfully buried. In 2014, after four years of decomposition, the whale's bones were exhumed and transported to the Field Station.

Cetacean Contracting from Salt Spring Island led a team of volunteers, including VIU students and community members, through the detailed "articulation" process of cleaning and preparing the bones for the final exhibit.

Lead donors included the Underwater

Harvesters Association, which donated \$10,000 to the project for the naming rights and Jamie's Whaling Station and Adventure Centres of Tofino/Ucluelet, which purchased all 23 bones in the whale's tale.

To see a fascinating photo collage of the whale articulation project, visit [www.viu.ca/deepbay/gwp-photos](http://www.viu.ca/deepbay/gwp-photos).

The Field Station is open seven days a week, 10 am to 4 pm. For more information, driving directions and a list of other special events at the Field Station such as High Tea by the Sea, concerts and more visit [www.viu.ca/deepbay](http://www.viu.ca/deepbay).



## GivingTuesday Dec. 1

Last year, the VIU community raised more than \$32,500 in one day during the first GivingTuesday campaign. With each gift matched by the VIU Foundation, students benefited from more than \$65,000 which went to student awards, projects, experiences, equipment and teaching tools.

"We want to say 'thank you' to all employees for supporting the campaign," says Dave Forrester, Alumni Relations Manager.

The Advancement & Alumni Relations Office is launching the 2015 GivingTuesday campaign on Tuesday, December 1.

It's a fun way to give and a great way for employees to support VIU, says Forrester.

"Donors can direct their gifts to initiatives of their choice. That means you can make a difference in the area most meaningful to you."

"Faculty and staff gifts to the University also speak volumes about VIU as a place for philanthropic investment. And, it's a great way to show your pride in VIU!"

To learn more about GivingTuesday, visit [www.viu.ca/giving](http://www.viu.ca/giving).

## Prizes wanted for annual VIU Online Auction

Which department, service area or faculty will come up with the most unique prize for this year's VIU online auction?

That's the question being posed by Kamala Haughton, Alumni Relations Officer. The online auction runs from 9 am October 23 to 4 pm on November 1.

"Employees can donate prizes individually or by getting their entire departments, faculties or service areas involved. We would love to have 100 percent engagement from across the University," says Haughton.

The most successful items sold in last year's online auction were experiences that could not normally be purchased, such as a tour and lunch at the Deep Bay Marine Field Station, Aboriginal Student art, an in-home lesson on preserving food, a bird-banding session and a bird-watching excursion.

Other examples of popular prize items included student/program work that is saleable (baking, auto services, Portal Magazine ad space), merchandise, or gift certificates for services offered by program areas.

"The online auction is a great opportunity for service areas, faculties and departments to use prize items to showcase what they do best while supporting a good cause," adds Haughton.

Last year's auction raised close to \$20,000, while this year's goal is \$25,000 to support students. One hundred percent of proceeds from each prize donated will be allocated to the donor's preferred initiative, department or faculty. All contributions are appreciated.

To contribute a prize item for the online auction, please email [kamala.haughton@viu.ca](mailto:kamala.haughton@viu.ca) before Wednesday, October 7.

## Fall 2015 professional teaching and learning sessions for all employees

The Centre for Innovation and Excellence in Learning has responded to requests and is now offering more intensive and multi-part professional teaching and learning opportunities for faculty and staff.

The new sessions focus on designing courses with high impact teaching practices that will build experiences for students to become more independent and self-regulated learners. These sessions are open to all employees, including sessional instructors, support staff and full-time teaching faculty.

Fall 2015 session highlights include a three part VIULearn Web Enhancement series to strengthen face-to-face courses with appropriately designed online components.

A three part Self-Regulated Learning series will explore how to teach metacognitively and teach students how learning works. In addition, a three part mini course redesign series will teach faculty how to build courses with solid learning outcomes and well aligned assessment, evaluation and active learning strategies.

Building on the popular “Breakfast Club” series held last year, a new initiative called the Teaching and Learning Engagement Club will see monthly hour-long gatherings geared around breakfast or afternoon coffee to allow faculty to discuss issues related to impactful teaching practices and student learning.

Registration for most sessions is through VIU’s registration system at [inviu.viu.ca](http://inviu.viu.ca), or by calling 250.740.6167 or emailing [stephanie.didsbury@viu.ca](mailto:stephanie.didsbury@viu.ca).



Tine Reimers

## Faculty Fast Start Institute

Tine Reimers and Bill Roberson, Curriculum, Teaching and Learning Specialists, are bringing an exciting new idea to VIU.

In the fall, they are launching a Faculty Fast Start Institute (FFSI) to help new teaching faculty become successful professionals.

The Institute is for full-time faculty who have worked at VIU two years or less in a regularized teaching position.

“We want to help early career teaching faculty accelerate the development of their skills, perspectives, attitudes and insights needed for longer term successes in teaching and learning at the post-secondary level,” explains Reimers.

“The FFSI is built to help new faculty understand that they can make choices in how they frame their professional lives.”

The goal, says Reimers, is to help new

faculty to think strategically about why they want to teach, how they want to teach and what they want to accomplish when they are teaching.

“We want them to think about how they find resources, how to manage time effectively, how to set clear priorities and how to communicate productively with colleagues.

“Most importantly, we want them to ask how they can be most effective with their students.”

While the FFSI is aimed at new teaching faculty, Reimers says plans are being made to offer similar support programs for mid-career to late career faculty in the future.

For more information about FFSI, please email [tine.reimers@viu.ca](mailto:tine.reimers@viu.ca).

# Orientation for new faculty

New teaching faculty and sessional instructors are invited to an orientation session on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 or Friday, January 8, 2016.

“Since VIU is a teaching institution, our goal is to focus on how new faculty can engage students in the classroom,” says Tine Reimers, with VIU’s Centre for Innovation and Excellence in Learning.

“The orientation will be fun, fast-paced and interactive and full of good ideas to help new faculty survive their first few

weeks in the classroom and beyond.”

Morning sessions will highlight what active learning looks like when it is going well in the classroom and how to engage students.

“There will be lots of group work, pair work and case studies, so participants will get to know each other across disciplines and across departments,” says Reimers.

Afternoon sessions will include a VIULearn Essentials Bootcamp for faculty to learn about VIU’s learning man-

agement system and a session entitled “Make the First Day of Class Count!”

In early fall, the Centre will offer a three-part series for teaching faculty who want to deepen their understanding of VIULearn through redesigning a portion of their course for online learning.

New faculty will also be encouraged to sign up for monthly ‘New Faculty Connection Sessions’ where they can meet colleagues and feel like part of a community.

“Each session will have a topic,” explains

Reimers, “and opportunities for new faculty to come together, reconnect and ask questions. The idea is that we’re building a cohort for new faculty so they are not alone and have a safe place to share ideas, frustrations, concerns, etc. with the group and their peers.”

“It gives new faculty a network of support across campus.”

## Keeping a good thing going Teaching and Learning Conference, May 4-6, 2016

VIU’s third annual Teaching and Learning Conference will be held at the Nanaimo campus May 4-6, 2016.

“The purpose of the conference is to build a culture of scholarly thinking around teaching and learning with all employees invited to the conversation,” says Tine Reimers, with VIU’s Centre for Innovation and Excellence in Learning.

“VIU faculty do many marvelous things in the classroom, but often their great work is hidden behind classroom doors.

“The conference will allow faculty members to share their ideas related to teaching with colleagues in a public venue and open up a collegial discussion about what works and why it works,” she

says. “It also allows for support staff and administration to show how they are encouraging successful student learning, too.”

Employees who have implemented great ideas will have the chance to submit proposals to present their ‘best practices’ at the conference.

The conference is modeled after several successful teaching and learning events held last spring and organized by the Centre.

A pre-conference will be held on the first day (May 4) focusing on sessions primarily presented via video and web conferencing to engage colleagues at all campuses.

The main conference will be held over two days (May 5-6) and include many



Faculty and staff are invited to share best practices in the classroom at VIU’s third annual Teaching and Learning Conference, May 4-6, 2016.

of the most popular activities from previous conferences.

“One of the crowning activities of last spring’s Teaching and Learning conference was a teaching slam, which we’ll definitely repeat,” Reimers says.

These were quick, 10 minute sessions where people explained their best moments in the classroom – what they were trying to achieve and how it worked.

The May conference will also include

several guest speakers.

“We can learn from our colleagues at other institutions,” says Reimers.

“Maybe they are doing things we haven’t thought of before or doing the same things in a different way.”

More details about the fall conference will be distributed to employees via email.

# Know your VIU

## Welcome Week Activities August 24 – 28

New and returning employees are invited to register for Welcome Week activities. To register, please visit the INVIU ProD Calendar at [inviu.viu.ca](http://inviu.viu.ca) (use Chrome web browser and “capitan” in front of the user ID to login from off campus). Sessions marked with an asterisk are mandatory for all employees.

### Monday, August 24

#### Human Resources Open House

9 – 11 am, Building 300, Welcome Centre

This session is for all employees who are new to VIU. Come meet the team of HR staff available to assist you throughout your employment at VIU. Please stop by for coffee and let us know how we can assist you.

#### Capacity to Connect

1:30 – 3 pm, Building 355, Room 211

Have you ever noticed signs of distress in students and wondered what to do? In this workshop, you will learn to recognize signs of distress, respond effectively and refer students to appropriate resources. Come learn how you are part of VIU’s web of well-being.

### Tuesday, August 25

#### VIU Faculty Fast Start Institute (day 1)

8:30 am – 3 pm, Building 305, Room 509

The goal of a faculty member is to thrive and excel, not merely survive. This one semester program for early career, teaching faculty (those in their first one to two years of their initial teaching appointments) is designed to accelerate the development of skills, perspectives, attitudes and insights needed for long-term success.

#### VIULearn Drop In

9 – 11 am, Building 305, Room 511b

Do you have questions about VIULearn (D2L)? Drop in for an informal help session. Open to any VIU employee; preregistration is preferred.

#### Health and Safety Orientation\*

1 – 2:30 pm, Building 355, Room 203

This session is for all new employees at VIU. Topics will include health and safety services, worker’s compensation, violence in the workplace, first aid, incident reporting and working alone.

### Wednesday, August 26

#### VIU Faculty Fast Start Institute (day 2)

8:30 am – 3 pm, Building 305, Room 509  
(includes breakfast and lunch)

#### Our Global Campus: International Education at VIU

9 – 11:30 am, Building 255, Room 175

All employees are welcome to attend this session to increase their knowledge about international education at VIU. Coffee and morning treats will be served.

#### Health and Safety Orientation\*

10 am to 11:30 am  
Building 355, Room 203

### Thursday, August 27

#### Capacity to Connect

9 – 10:30 am, Building 250, Room 308  
(See story below)

#### Cowichan VIULearn Essentials Bootcamp

9:30 – 10:30 am, Cowichan Campus, Room 115, Computer Lab

This session is for those new to VIULearn (D2L) who want to learn about and use the integrated learning platform for classes.

#### Cowichan: VIULearn Drop in Time

10:30 – 12 noon, Cowichan Campus, Room 115, Computer Lab

This time frame is an opportunity for teaching faculty or staff who have questions about VIULearn (D2L) to drop in for an informal help session. Pre-registration is preferred.

#### Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS)\*

1:30 – 3:30 pm, 9 – 11 am  
Building 355, Room 203

WHMIS is a labeling/alert/data system designed to provide people with information about the risks and hazards of potentially hazardous chemicals that they work directly with or near. The Worker’s Compensation Board requires that all employees attend one of these workshops.

#### VIULearn Drop in Time

2 – 4 pm, Building 305, Room 511b

### Friday, August 28

#### Chair/Coordinator Information Session

9 – 11:30 am  
Building 300, Royal Arbutus Room

This workshop will introduce chairs and coordinators in all departments and programs to a variety of resources and services available to them, along with an opportunity to meet and learn from each other.

**\* Required workshops for all employees.**

## Counselling department offers new workshops

Student life is a period of unique change filled with many challenges. Every member of the VIU community has the opportunity to support students who may be struggling with issues that affect their academic performance.

Two workshops for employees, “Capacity to Connect: Supporting Students in Distress” and “Supporting Life: Suicide Awareness” will be offered this fall and spring at the Nanaimo campus. The workshops will be facilitated for specific departments, faculties or service areas upon request.

People who regularly interact with students or who have a leadership, “gatekeeper” or “customer-focused” role may find these workshops of particular value.

Capacity to Connect: Supporting Students in Distress is a 60 to 75 minute

workshop to help participants recognize signs of distress in students, respond effectively and refer students to appropriate resources. Two sessions will be offered during Welcome Week August 24–27 (see above schedule).

Supporting Life: Suicide Awareness is a 90-minute workshop that continues the conversation about the stressors students might be experiencing as well as uncover implications that those stressors could have if they are left unaddressed. This might include suicide, which is a leading cause of death in youth.

Check the Counselling Services website mid-August for a schedule and to register.

For more information, contact Michelle Daoust, local 2013 or [michelle.daoust@viu.ca](mailto:michelle.daoust@viu.ca)

## Employee Summer Social

### August 26

3:30 – 5 pm, Building 300  
Cafeteria (lower section and patio)

Join us for this opportunity to welcome new employees and reconnect with returning colleagues. Complimentary food and beverages will be available.

**See you there!**



Bryan Stovell retired in July after 50-plus years in music education.

## Bryan Stovell: “Freedom 75” plan after 50-plus years in music education

Bryan Stovell likes to joke that he’s on the “Freedom 75” plan with his retirement after 18 years on faculty with VIU’s Music department.

At 75 years young, Stovell has enjoyed more than half a century in music education. His first career began as a music teacher for Grades 3 to 12 in Nanaimo public schools. He came out of retirement to serve as instructor and chair of VIU’s Jazz Studies program, which he founded.

Along the way of an eventful career, Stovell has rarely missed an opportunity to network across Canada with other music educators and through his affiliation with MusicFest Canada. He sat on that organization’s board for many years, chairing the Concert Band and Orchestra division and, most recently, the Jazz division.

Highlights for Stovell and his wife Carolyn, who often accompanied him as a volunteer on MusicFest travels, included visiting every major Canadian city; the couple also took an eight-country tour of Europe and visited Japan with a National All-Star Band.

Stovell has received many awards and accolades for his dedication to music education. He is a MusicFest Canada Hall of Fame member and recipient of the Marshall McLuhan Distinguished Teacher Award for both BC and Canada. He was also honoured by the BC Music Educators’ Association with its Professional Music Educator Award and with the City of Nanaimo’s Cultural Leader Award.

Stovell is held in high esteem by his

colleagues and former students, a number of whom have gone on to high profile music careers. As Diana Krall’s high school band teacher in Nanaimo, Stovell recalls she was too shy to sing back then and hadn’t yet mastered the instruments she played.

He was pleased to see her musical career progress and was delighted to be one of those thanked in her 1999 Grammy Award acceptance speech.

Stovell’s inspiration has also meant a lot to successful VIU Music grads Ingrid and Christine Jensen, David Gogo and hip-hop artists Alex Maher and Mario Vaira.

Too humble to shine the light on his own musical accomplishments, Stovell’s colleagues and many friends in the music world will point out his internationally recognized talents as a guest conductor, adjudicator, bass instructor and session player.

In retirement, Stovell plans to devote more energy to the Nanaimo Big Band, which he and two others started in his basement in 1967. He will also continue his connection with VIU through an appointment as Honorary Research Associate, which will keep him involved with faculty and students.

His passion for teaching music and seeing the success of his students has fueled a long, enjoyable career for Stovell.

“There’s nothing like that class in front of me, they’re all nodding their heads, they’re getting it,” he says. “You know, you can’t get that experience any other way.”

## Wayne Hiles leaves 40 year legacy at VIU

Wayne Hiles retired as VIU’s Manager of Building and Grounds on the last day of 2014, leaving behind a campus that he’s had a hand in keeping safe, beautiful, orderly and well maintained.

Hiles began his career with VIU at the old Kennedy Street campus, where he first worked in building maintenance beginning in 1972. When then Malaspina College moved up the hill to the current Nanaimo campus site in ‘74, Hiles soon followed, after applying for a role in the maintenance department.

With a career at VIU that spans more than 40 years, Hiles saw the construction of many of the buildings on campus and the transformation of a hillside collection of buildings into the modern campus it is today.

As an administrator in the Facilities department since 2002, Hiles has overseen a wide variety of areas on campus, including grounds maintenance, fire prevention, snow and ice control, vehicle fleet maintenance, parking and security and emergency response.



Wayne Hiles

While buildings and grounds have been the focus of Hiles’ job for decades, he points to the people he’s met through his years at VIU and the friends he’s made as key to how much he’s enjoyed the role.

In retirement, Hiles is running a small renovation and repair business with one of his sons and he’s looking forward to golfing as a new member of the Nanaimo Golf Club. Along with his wife Sharon, he looks forward to taking their motorhome on longer trips.

Daryl Amos, Manager of Building Systems in the Facilities department said, “Wayne has a work ethic that is second to none, willing and able to put in very long hours to deal with difficult tasks. The people he knows, the systems he knows and the buildings he knows would serve to fill a very special encyclopedia of VIU history!”

## Stu Seifert - Instrumental in Building Heavy Equipment Operator program

With deep roots in Nanaimo, Stu Seifert spent almost 40 years working at VIU.

He started out as a Heavy Duty Mechanic in March 1976 and was quickly known as a man who got things done.

Two years later, he was appointed a temporary Heavy Duty Mechanic Instructor, which became a permanent role in 1982.

It didn’t take long for Seifert to begin sharing his vision for the department, convincing everyone how important it was to build and grow a first class program with the best quality equipment and highest professional standards.

As a young man, he had gained work experience around BC operating heavy duty equipment, eventually earning his Red Seal as a Heavy Duty Mechanic.

When Seifert was appointed Chair of the Heavy Equipment Operator program in 2001, he threw himself wholeheartedly into developing curriculum and compe-



Stu Seifert

tencies for the program.

As BCGEU Local 702 president for many years, he spent countless hours in a leadership role representing colleagues and their professions at the union table.

He was also on the Board of Governors as a faculty representative from 1994-1998, bringing the same leadership qualities to the governance of a rapidly changing campus and institution.

In retirement, Seifert enjoys fishing with his buddies, swapping tales about the fish he might have caught and spending time with his wife Darlene, children and grandchildren.

He continues giving back to his community – serving on the board for Mid-Island Co-op and on the VIU Alumni Board, which he joined last September.

# IT department improves wireless service at VIU

With more students, staff and faculty using wireless devices like Smartphones and Tablets, fast, convenient and reliable wireless access is essential – especially on university campuses like VIU.

That is why a team of technicians in VIU's Information Technology (IT) department is working hard on a project to improve wireless coverage at VIU.

"The wireless network at VIU has grown in an ad hoc fashion where the rapid increase in the use of personally owned wireless devices has quickly outstripped the available service," says Tracey Terepocki, Interim Manager, IT Infrastructure.

"Our existing wireless infrastructure just cannot keep up with the growing demand, so we are making improvements to meet longer-term requirements."

Wireless requirements have changed dramatically over the past few years with wireless access becoming a necessity in many areas. The majority of wireless traffic is multi-media based and Smartphones and Tablets are the primary devices used to access the wireless infrastructure.

"The primary purpose of this project is to replace VIU's existing wireless infrastructure with a new solution that is robust and easily accessible," Terepocki adds. "The new wireless system will be phased in, eventually providing full indoor coverage at all campuses and centres and also coverage of high-use outdoor spaces on the Nanaimo campus."

Phase one of the project was completed in early April. That phase covered key areas on the Nanaimo campus including

some outdoor areas such as Tamagawa Gardens, the quad in front of the Library, Royal Bank Plaza, the barbeque area around Building 255 and the area in front of the Students Union.

Phase two covers the rest of the Nanaimo campus as well as Powell River, Deep Bay, Parksville and Cowichan. "It is well underway with the wireless access points on order and the tender for cabling and installation about to close," says Terepocki. "Then it is a mad dash to get everything installed before the activities of the fall semester. When the project is completed, there will be 746 access points spread across various VIU buildings."

In addition to technology changes, VIU's wireless system will be rebranded. "We are leaving behind the WISP and S-WISP IDs of the old system," says Terepocki. "The new solution, identified as VIU-Secure, will be used by students, faculty and staff."

Another exciting development coming out of VIU's IT department is the rollout of the 'eduroam ID' across all campuses.

"Eduroam (education roaming) is the secure, worldwide roaming access service developed for the international research and education community," explains Terepocki.

"It allows students, researchers and staff from participating institutions to obtain Internet connectivity across campus and when visiting other participating institutions by using the logon from their home campus. It's already available at the Cowichan Campus and we're planning to bring it on board in Nanaimo by fall."



Information Technology technician Jake Gillespie.

## Getting to Know Your IT Technician – Jake Gillespie

Jake Gillespie calls himself an 'operational trouble shooter.' In addition to making sure VIU computer systems function normally, Gillespie lends his technical expertise to a number of special projects.

Gillespie is the lead IT technician on the major wireless technology improvement project underway at all VIU campuses and centres.

A good day on the job for Gillespie is when he is configuring switches, routers and other devices to keep VIU's computer network operating smoothly.

Gillespie has worked in a variety of roles for IT, from customer service at the IT Help Desk to his current role as a technician.

"I feel pretty fortunate," he says. "I'm doing my dream job in many ways. Keeping things running smoothly is what I enjoy the most."

# Staff and students happy with new Online Award System

A new Online Award System developed by staff in VIU's Information Technology (IT) department has resulted in a 400 percent increase in online applications from students applying for scholarships, awards and bursaries.

Dan Brydges, a Programmer Analyst in IT, developed new software to create the Online Award System.

In the past, students were required to view all awards, bursaries and scholarships online and then submit an application form. It was a lengthy and paper-based process.

"As the number of awards continued to increase, so did the need to implement an online system," says Jennifer Jensen-Richards, Coordinator, Financial Aid and Awards.

Under the direction of Andrew Speed, Manager, Systems Development, and in coordination with the Advancement and Alumni Relations Office and Financial Aid and Awards, Brydges developed the new system.

He examined all the criteria for VIU awards and then created a list – or profile – of more than 100 common features.

Now when a student logs into their student record, they simply fill out their awards profile.

"When an award deadline comes up, the computer automatically matches the award criteria to student profiles," explains Brydges.

"The Financial Aid and Awards department receives a computer generated list of eligible candidates for each award. The new system is a huge time saver for both students and staff."

The system was piloted last October and Brydges says the first official run through took place April 30.

"Dan provided amazing support and knowledge for this project," says Richards.

"This has been a three-year process and we truly could not have accomplished all that we have without Dan. His knowledge, surprising patience and calm manner has contributed to the success of the new Online Award System."

Brydges is an alumnus of VIU, having earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 2014 with a double minor in digital media studies and business. A lifelong learner, Brydges is a current student in



IT Programmer Analyst Dan Brydges helped create a new Online Award System that resulted in a 400 percent increase in online applications from students.

VIU's Master of Business Administration program.

He joined the University in December 2006 as a Programmer Analyst, after earning a computer science diploma at Langara College.

"It's the perfect combination for my

current job," says Brydges. "Digital Studies totally applies to what I do. The training makes me a better software writer and the business background helps me to better understand clients in various departments, from Finance to Accounting."

## Sustainability matters here

Did you know that during Bike to Work Week 2015, VIU teams biked over 2,100 kilometers, saving about 525 kilograms of CO<sup>2</sup> from entering Nanaimo's atmosphere? And over the summer, participants took part in the PowerDown20 Challenge by taking on 20 challenges that supported and encouraged low energy use?

This coming fall, there are other ways to be involved with sustainability efforts at VIU.

As well as the ongoing battery and writing instrument recycling programs, compost bins in all washrooms and waste sorting stations around the campus, you can visit the Sustainability Fair scheduled for the first week of October. To find out more, go to [www.viu.ca/sustainability](http://www.viu.ca/sustainability).



Margot Croft, Environment and Sustainability (left) and Kamala Haughton, Advancement and Alumni Relations, took part in Bike to Work Week 2015.

## Professor takes math on the road

Dr. David Bigelow, VIU math professor, visited the Powell River campus to deliver a Math Is Fun session for the elementary children at James Thomson Elementary School.

"To say it was a success is putting it lightly," said Micki McCartney, Acting Campus Manager.

Bigelow, Chair of VIU's Math department, presented three workshops for 65 students in Grades 3 to 4. His visit was organized by the Powell River campus in partnership with School District #47.

Included among the topics was how to cut a hole in a sheet of newspaper large enough for the world to pass through and why knowing that you can never fold a piece of paper in half more than eight times holds the secret to untold wealth.

Bigelow has been presenting workshops to elementary school children in various schools and camps since the early 1990s.

The event was so successful the Powell River Campus and SD #47 plan to expand it to other schools in the district.

# VIU PEOPLE



**Sue Allen's** Professional Development and Training office hosted a successful forum May 27-29 called Continuing Education and Training Association of BC (CETABC): Charting New Courses. CETABC represents employees who work in contract training or professional development, including continuing education.

Allen says 88 delegates from BC and Alberta – the largest number ever attending CETABC's annual forum – appreciated the opportunity to meet, network and collaborate with colleagues.

Delegates discussed best practices in the field and reviewed new directions being spearheaded by Professional Development and Training departments to promote lifelong learning for all ages.

Forum delegates stayed in VIU's student residences and enjoyed some recreational activities during the three day forum, including hiking on Newcastle Island and kayaking.



**Bill Beese and Michel Vallee** from VIU's Forestry department helped break a Guinness World Record for the most trees planted in one hour by small teams. They were 'stewards' at the official world record attempt organized by Island Timberlands near Qualicum Beach. The team included 66 high school students, plus company employees and contractors from Island Timberlands as well as VIU alumni. The team planted approximately 4,000 Douglas fir seedlings in one hour. The record attempt involved more than 1,100 participants, across four time zones, including industry representatives, community organizations, youth groups and conservation groups. Each team of 25 to 100 people planted trees from 1 to 2 pm EDT, in locations ranging from New York City to Vancouver Island. Organized by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, more than 200,000 trees were planted simultaneously in 28 different communities, smashing the previous world record.



**Stephanie Watkins**, Administrative Coordinator for the Board of Governors, participated in the week-long VIU Education Abroad New York City Art Tour in February.

The tour was led by faculty members, **Ellen McCluskey** and **Jason Gress** and included students, staff and community members.

Watkins enjoyed visiting all major art galleries and museums in New York, exploring the city on her own time and taking in a few Broadway shows.

"One of the highlights was visiting the Museum of Modern Art and seeing Van Gogh's most famous painting, *Starry Night*," she says.

Watkins says the trip was educational and fun and allowed her to make life long connections with staff, students and faculty. She hopes to attend another Education Abroad trip next year.

For more information on Education Abroad trips contact [www.viu.ca/educationabroad](http://www.viu.ca/educationabroad).



**Ashraf Hassib** (Hospitality Management) returned from the Breda Institute of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands after a three-week stint as a visiting scholar. He lived at the "hotel school" to learn and participate in their curricula activities. His visit was part of VIU's efforts to internationalize curriculum and strengthen international relationships.



Staff and students from VIU's **International Education department** engaged with the

community at the Nanaimo Multicultural Festival on Saturday, June 13 in Nanaimo's Old City Quarter. They hosted a booth and several international students performed on stage.



**Dr. Patrick Dunae** (retiree and Honorary Research Associate, Department of History) contributed a new book on the history of the financial co-operatives in BC. *Common Bonds: A History of Greater Vancouver Community Credit Union* was published in June 2015 to mark the 75th anniversary of that organization.



VIU's **Faculty of Arts and Humanities** will launch a new Strategic Plan in fall 2015.

This represents two years of work by a committee, including workshops which involved the entire faculty. Dean **Dr. Ross MacKay** says the plan provides an excellent and invaluable blueprint for the future of the faculty.



# GrandKids University creates lasting memories

“This program continues to get better every year.”

That was just one of the positive comments from a participant at the eighth annual GrandKids University at VIU July 9 and 10.

“It was our biggest year ever,” says coordinator Regan McKeever.

A total of 129 grandparents and grandchildren attended two fun-filled days at the Nanaimo campus.

“Just like at real university, participants could select a ‘major’ from subjects including philosophy, baking, visual arts, wildlife management, field biology and chemistry,” says McKeever.

“The success of GrandKids University relies on the effort and commitment from our VIU volunteers and faculty,” she adds.

“We couldn’t offer such a smoothly run, amazing program without help from many employees across the campus.”

McKeever would like to thank all employees and volunteers from Registration, Records, the Student Residences, Hairdressing, Chemistry and Fisheries and Aquaculture who helped with GrandKids University.

She would also like to thank key faculty members who taught various subjects and made learning fun for their young students and grandparents.

The event included a movie night, barbecue, science demonstration and a graduation ceremony. All students were given ‘Future VIU Grad’ t-shirts which they wore proudly during the two day event.



Visual Arts professor Scott Leaf teaches the fine techniques of pottery during GrandKids University. Leaf was one of more than a dozen faculty members who helped make GrandKids University a big success.



About 35 park wardens and conservation and wildlife officers from across Canada attended a three-day wildlife field forensics conference at VIU in June. The inaugural course at VIU, sponsored by Parks Canada and Environment Canada, was intended to give the officers and wardens a higher level of professional expertise to investigate cases involving wildlife and to prosecute wildlife poachers. **Greg Klimes**, recently retired chair of VIU’s department of Resource Management and Protection, facilitated the course.



**Johnny Blakeborough**, a Media Technician in VIU’s Information Technology department, is hanging up his hat after 10 years as director of the Vancouver Island Short Film Festival.

This year’s festival at the Nanaimo campus was a huge success with more than 770 people in attendance at three shows featuring 14 short films selected from 65 entries. The films were produced by filmmakers from around the world, including Ireland, Iran and Switzerland.



**Debra Jacklin**, VIU’s Strategic Marketing Manager and **John Gardiner**, Social Media Coordinator, spoke to the Canadian Public Relations Society (CPRS) National chapter and the CPRS mid-Island Chapter about how to run a successful Instagram campaign. Their award-winning campaign promoted the hashtag #iLearnHere. They have also been invited to speak this fall at the American Marketing Association’s 2015 Symposium for the Marketing of Higher Education.



Librarian **Jean Blackburn** was invited to participate on a national task group by the Canadian Research Knowledge Network, the group that is responsible for negotiating much of the e-resource content available at Canadian universities. The group is called the Institutional Mobilization Task Group. Blackburn is one of seven representatives chosen from across the country to do this important work.



VIU employees, including **Kamala Haughton, Darlene Goodrick, Stephanie Didsbury, Rolanda Murray, Rob Campbell, Tiffany McLaughlin** and **Deirdre Godwin**, are members of the planning team behind 40th anniversary celebrations of Local 1858 of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE). During spring and summer, the committee organized a cake and coffee event at

all campuses and several movie nights showcasing labour relations issues with such titles as *Silkwood* and *Norma Rae*. Most recently, a family summer barbecue was attended by more than 130 members. The day’s festivities included carnival games and prizes, two bouncy castles, a sumo wrestling mat and suits and a face painter. Coming up on December 16, the committee is planning a social and screening of a CUPE 40th anniversary video at the union’s annual general meeting. Watch for more details in the VIU Digest.



**Eliza Gardiner**, a part-time Theatre professor and VIU’s United Way Campaign Associate, is the new general manager of Nanaimo Theatre One. Appointed earlier this year, Gardiner takes over from former general manager, Mary Desprez. In addition to her work at VIU, Gardiner has worked for numerous non-profit organizations as well as the Western Edge Theatre Society.



Biology professor **Dr. Jane Watson** was featured in the October 2014 issue of *New Scientist* with VIU graduate **Erin Rechsteiner**. The article is entitled “Comeback Kids” and discusses the sea otters booming in Canada.



Chemistry professors **Dr. Chris Gill** and **Dr. Erik Krogh** had a front cover article published in December 2014 in the *Journal of Mass Spectrometry* highlighting what they do in the Applied Environmental Research Lab (AERL) at the Nanaimo campus.

While presenting AERL work at the Lake Louise Tandem Mass Spectrometry Conference, Dr. Gill was approached by the editor of the journal and invited to be interviewed with Dr. Krogh.

As Dr. Gill states, “This (story) gives us significant recognition on the international stage, it really puts us on the map.”

# Employees set record for United Way campaign

Eliza Gardiner, professor in the Theatre department and Christine Jenkins, Admissions and Registration Clerk, issue a huge 'thank you' to the 126 VIU employees who contributed more than \$30,000 to the 2014/15 annual United Way campaign.

"Thank you to everyone who made last year's campaign such a remarkable experience and success," said Gardiner, who served with Jenkins as the VIU United Way Campaign Associates.

Gardiner and Jenkins did such a fabulous job that they will be back in the same roles for the fall 2015 United Way campaign.

"We are ecstatic to welcome Christine and Eliza back as part of our team for a second campaign season," says Corrie Fortner, Manager of Resource Development for the United Way Central-North Vancouver Island division.

"Not only were they a huge asset, but their enthusiasm and professionalism contributed to a fun and successful year. The opportunity to have them return will provide continuity and build on last year's efforts, creating an even greater impact on the wellbeing of the community."

Last year's campaign was the highest giving year for employee contributions since the VIU campaign started in 2007, says Gardiner. With generous donations from all campuses, employee gifts totalled \$33,750.

Not only do VIU employees support



VIU employees scored a 'touch down' in the United Way Campaign, raising more than \$30,000 last year.

more than 21,500 vulnerable people through 94 United Way funded community initiatives, but VIU builds strong ties with the community it serves by building healthier communities where it operates, she adds.

VIU and United Way have been formal partners through the Employee Giving

Campaign since 2007, serving many thousands of vulnerable people each year. Furthermore, VIU strengthens many areas of the community through its relationships with United Way funded programs.

For more information on how United Way affects positive change in our local communities, visit these website links:

Central and Northern Vancouver Island:

[www.uwcncvi.ca](http://www.uwcncvi.ca)

Cowichan Valley:

[www.cowichanunitedway.com](http://www.cowichanunitedway.com)

Powell River:

[www.unitedwayofpowellriver.ca](http://www.unitedwayofpowellriver.ca)

## Using the power of math to help cancer patients



Dr. Lev Idels

Anyone who's ever taken calculus can appreciate struggling with differential equations. Mathematics professor Dr. Lev Idels is grappling with similar complex equations in his research as he tries to help uncover the underlying biology of cancer tumours using the power of math.

Dr. Idels has received a two-year Discovery Grant from the National Science Engineering Research Council of Canada for an exciting pilot project. This project will focus on determining how best to use complex mathematical equations to develop what Idels calls "a new vision of cancer dynamics."

"Certain mathematical models are better than doctors at predicting the outcomes and responses of lung cancer patients to treatment, according to new research," says Idels.

"Building mathematical models can help isolate and/or integrate different aspects of the disease which thereby help us investigate the role of complex tumour growth features and how they might respond to treatment. The goal is that

doctors will be able to use this information to decide when best to apply cancer therapy, as well as indicating the most efficient treatment protocols."

The use of these mathematical models will help doctors determine key points in the development of cancerous tumours and suggest when the growth process can be most easily interrupted, explains Idels. This will help illuminate how the role of time delays between treatments can be triggering factors in tumour growth.

"It is exciting to think that as we are able to create more complex mathematical models, that information can aid us in testing hypotheses and perform multiple control experiments that do not require human participants," says Idels.

According to Idels, the pilot project will be ideal for training graduate and undergraduate students in applied mathematics, mathematical biology and computer science. It will also include collaboration and cooperation with research university groups in France, Italy, Norway, Brazil and Argentina.

## Coast Capital Savings gifts Ceremonial Convocation Suite to VIU

A beautiful new Ceremonial Convocation Suite is now on public display in the Welcome Centre at the Nanaimo campus. Created by world-renowned artist Arthur Vickers, the suite was gifted to the University by Coast Capital Savings.

The suite graced the stage for the first time at the June 2015 convocation and will remain on public display in the Welcome Centre between ceremonies.

The suite includes a Chancellor's chair, a President & Vice-Chancellor's chair and a Bentcorner box designed to hold degree parchments. Employees are encouraged to visit the Welcome Centre and see this work of art first-hand.

To read more, please visit [www.viu.ca/ceremonial-suite](http://www.viu.ca/ceremonial-suite).



From (l-r): Her Honour, The Honourable Judith Guichon, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia; Arthur Vickers, Artist; Wayne Berg, Chief Commercial Officer, Coast Capital Savings; Dr. Ralph Nilson, President & Vice-Chancellor, Vancouver Island University; and Louise Mandell, Chancellor, Vancouver Island University.



## Ceremonial totem poles unveiled at VIU

Employees are invited to come and see two beautiful totem poles located next to Shq'apthut: A Gathering Place on the Nanaimo campus.

On June 11, a community gathering was held to witness the unveiling of two of three ceremonial totem poles, which represent major First Nations language groups on the island.

The totems were carved by artists from Snuneymuxw, Nuu-chah-nulth and Kwakwaka'wakw Territories.

The totem pole project was spearheaded by the Vancouver Island University Students' Union with the goal of supporting and inspiring the University community and providing an ongoing educational opportunity that honours the importance of traditional knowledge at VIU and the strong relationships that continue to evolve between First Nations communities and the University.

The Western Red Cedar trees, from which the totems were created, were made available through supportive relationships with Island Timberlands, Western Forest Products, Timberwest and First Nations from Vancouver Island.

## Year-long project examines successful student learning at VIU

"Inspiring and insightful."

That's how Dr. Tina McComb, Director of Enrolment Management, describes a year-long Successful Student Learning initiative underway at VIU involving the whole campus community.

Coordinated in partnership with Dr. Liesel Knaack, Director of VIU's Centre for Innovation and Excellence in Learning (CIEL), the project will result in the creation of "a portrait of student learning at VIU."

"As a teaching-focused university, VIU needs to be a place where everyone is able to participate in the conversation about student learning," explains Knaack.

"This past year, we encouraged every employee, no matter what their role, to think about what student learning looked like and to share their thoughts."

McComb and Knaack gathered more than 1,000 responses from faculty, staff, students and administrators.

Now, they are working on a summary report on the Successful Student Learning project for Dr. Dave Witty, Provost and Vice-President Academic, who launched the initiative through his office in August 2014.

"The data will help us create an avenue for discussing impactful teaching approaches and plan activities to support students more in their learning journey," says Knaack.

The idea for VIU's Successful Student Learning project was inspired by a similar project McComb heard about at Sheridan College in Ontario. With Witty's support, a working committee has helped guide two main components of the project.

The first component included several activities held during the year to provide staff, faculty, administrators and students with opportunities to learn more about and discuss, student learning and what it means.

These included the launch of the digital learning commons website for students called Learning Matters, a reading circle for employees and a series of student panels where students shared their views on what helps them learn.

The second component was a campus engagement piece - a process designed to solicit widespread VIU community feedback on one question - 'what does student learning look like for you?'

Knaack and McComb attended more than 50 department and faculty meetings to invite feedback and held campus engagement sessions with employees at all campuses.

Students in a variety of programs, were asked a second question - 'how are you challenged in your vision of achieving student learning?'

A one-day Student Learning Symposium was also held in May where more than 80 participants discussed student learning and ways the campus community can enhance successes for students in their whole learning experience.

Several faculty members made presentations about how they are already promoting student learning in classrooms and round table discussions on emerging themes fleshed out more feedback.

McComb and Knaack agree that the project was inspiring and sparked "great dialogue and discussion about student learning at VIU."

"Everyone who participated - including students, staff, faculty and administrators - feels connected to learning in some way and sees how their role can support students," says McComb.

"I believe this project can help fuel even more great activities both in and out of classrooms so that even more students can be successful and reach their potential. And that is ultimately why we're all here."

## New EFAP provider for VIU employees

VIU's new Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP) service provider is Homewood Health. The change came into effect July 1.

"As part of our ongoing commitment to the highest level of program delivery and cost effectiveness, a thorough review of EFAP services was conducted," said Brenda McKay, Manager, Human Resources. "After careful review and consideration, a decision was made to switch EFAP services providers."

Homewood Health has been providing high quality, comprehensive Employee Assistance Programs for more than 32

years and is currently the preferred supplier to companies in North America.

Homewood is recognized for its clinical quality, professional standards and their ability to provide service excellence in the field of employee health and well-being.

As before, all employee participation in EFAP is anonymous and confidential.

If you have any questions about this change in benefit provider, please contact Brenda McKay at **250.740.6521**. For general information or to book an appointment, call Homewood Health at **1.800.663.1142**.

# VIU faculty receive teaching awards of excellence

Teaching excellence is a hallmark of VIU. Each year, VIU issues Provost Awards for Excellence in Teaching Design and Practice in several categories to celebrate and recognize our faculty's dedication to our students. The awards formally recognize the excellence in achievements in all facets of teaching and student learning at VIU. Visit [www.viu.ca/convocation/provost\\_awards](http://www.viu.ca/convocation/provost_awards) for more information or to nominate a colleague.



## Dr. Dave Bigelow Teaching Design and Practice that Enhances Deep Learning

Former student Katherine Anderson describes Dr. Dave Bigelow as “the kind of teacher who transforms the stereotypical culture of mathematics from dreary and drab to fun and exciting.”

“He makes class a place where students want to be by stimulating imagination and nurturing critical thinking and reasoning,” says Anderson.

Bigelow, who joined VIU in 1990, loves sharing his passion for math. He believes that stories, whether true or fictional, can have great power in a classroom.

“A good story will draw people into your world and hold them there,” he says. “Most people experience math as a dry subject, full of meaningless calculations and equations.

**“He’s the kind of teacher who transforms the stereotypical culture of mathematics from dreary and drab to fun and exciting.”**

— Former student, Katherine Anderson

“Whenever I teach, I want to present the subject matter in a vibrant and exciting manner. To help achieve this lofty goal, I use stories to breathe life into the presentation.”

Bigelow, Chair of the Math department for the past five years, regularly conducts math workshops at local schools for students and teachers.

He is active in the Vancouver Island theatre scene and has performed in several highly acclaimed local productions.

In 2013, Bigelow teamed up with former member of Ballet BC, Ivana Ho, to perform and video an interpretive dance of his doctoral thesis “Enclosings of Latin Squares and Triple Systems”, which was submitted to the international “Dance my PhD” competition.



## Dr. Tim Goater Teaching Design and Practice that Employs Experiential Learning

“Tim Goater brings unbridled passion into the classroom, has an unfettered dedication to student’s success and is unparalleled in his integration of hands-on laboratory and field experiences.”

That’s how nominator Dr. Erik Krogh of VIU’s Chemistry department describes his friend and colleague, who joined VIU’s Biology department 25 years ago.

**“Tim Goater brings unbridled passion into the classroom.”**

— Colleague, Dr. Erik Krogh

Hands-on learning experiences in the classroom, in the laboratories and, especially, in the field, are closely integrated into each of Goater’s first year zoology and advanced parasitology, invertebrate zoology and entomology courses.

Goater’s experiential teaching and learning involves frequent field trips to local ecosystems and the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre. He also co-teaches VIU’s Tropical Biology Field School in Belize, where students explore the spectacular biodiversity of coral reef and rainforest environments.

Goater is also an avid proponent of student involvement in scientific research; more than 100 highly motivated and dedicated undergraduate students have conducted independent research projects under his supervision and mentorship. Several have published their results in peer-reviewed journals, or presented their research at scientific conferences.

Former student Dr. Aaron Jex, now a senior lecturer in parasitology at the University of Melbourne, Australia, says, “Even today, Tim’s selfless mentorship and undeniable love of teaching shapes how I approach my own lectures, how I interact with my own post-graduate students and how I look at parasitology.”



## Dr. Ken Hammer Teaching Design and Practice that Employs Innovative Practices for Student Learning

Students never know what to expect in Dr. Ken Hammer’s classes, according to friend and colleague Dr. Nicole Vaugeois.

“On one day, he might break out in a song that he’s written for the class to summarize key points, or have students meet downtown with community leaders to discuss leadership, or have students share what they’ve learned from a reading circle,” says Vaugeois, who was once a student of Hammer’s at Red Deer College.

“Everything I learned about effective teaching has been instilled from his mentorship and his passionate and unwavering interest in how to facilitate learning. His ability to innovate and create opportunities for learners to explore topics in creative ways makes him an excellent teacher.”

Hammer taught in the Tourism and Recreation Management program and in the Master’s of Business Administration program from 1998 until he retired in July 2015.

**“Ken is one of those one-in-a-million teachers who profoundly affects people’s lives.”**

— Former student, Jamie Knight

Hammer believes that “learning occurs best when we are able to coordinate the synergies of teaching, research and scholarship; and practice in an environment of leadership, innovation and community.”

Former student Jamie Knight says, “Ken’s energy and community involvement is infectious. Ken is one of those one-in-a-million teachers who profoundly affects people’s lives, sending ripples of change through those he has touched which continue on throughout the community.”



## Dr. Katharina Rout Teaching Design and Practice that Employs Innovative Practices for Student Learning

Dr. Ross MacKay, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at VIU, who nominated Dr. Katharina Rout for the teaching excellence award, says, “Katherina works tirelessly to enhance the classroom experience for students who often describe her as one of the best teachers they’ve ever had.”

Faculty member Marni Stanley adds that Rout has consistently stretched herself as an instructor by taking on complex new courses that require extensive preparations.

**“Katharina has been one of the most inspirational teachers I have ever had.”**

— Former student, Iona Lister

“She is constantly trying new things, reading new things and developing new courses or new versions of old courses,” adds Stanley. “She is innovative, creative and passionate about teaching.”

An English professor at VIU since 1988, Rout teaches courses about Arab literature and international Nobel Prize authors, among others.

Former student Iona Lister says, “Katharina has been one of the most inspirational teachers I have ever had.”

Rout’s passion for building bridges between cultures has involved her with research in translation theory and with the practice of literary translation. Her translations of contemporary fiction from Germany, Austria and Mongolia have received wide acclaim.

As a firm believer in the responsibility of academics to serve the society that sustains them, she was instrumental, together with Emerita Dr. Helen Brown, in starting VIU’s public lecture series, the Arts and Humanities Colloquium.

## Retired faculty awarded Academic Emeritus Designation

Academic Emeritus designations recognize retired faculty members for significant contributions and exceptional service during their long-term association with the University.

Two retired faculty members, **Dr. Rick Rollins**, Faculty of Management and **Bob Lane**, Faculty of Social Science, received this honour in June.

The award encourages and fosters an ongoing relationship between a teacher, librarian, or scholar and the University after retirement so that the University may benefit from the continuing relationship and the recipient may benefit from using the University name in the context of appropriate scholarly endeavours.

For more information on Academic Emeritus at VIU please visit:

[www.viu.ca/emmeritus](http://www.viu.ca/emmeritus)

## Founder of VIU Philosophy department

Bob Lane taught literature and philosophy for 31 years at VIU (then Malaspina College).

He started his teaching career in Oregon, but moved to BC to become one of the first faculty members at the new college on Kennedy Street in 1969.

Lane was a founding member of the Philosophy department “and for years, I was the only member,” he says.

As the institution grew, he became the Founding Director of VIU’s Institute of Practical Philosophy, which is still an active player today in community issues and contemporary moral issues.

For a short while, Lane served as the institution’s Special Events Coordinator, responsible for organizing public arts performances.

“My proudest moments are those where students were involved in intellectual and artistic expressions in the community,” he says.

“I remember teaching a night school class in Parksville and as their final exam, my students performed five of their plays at the Errington Community Hall. The place was packed and the local paper covered the event as though it was a Broadway production. It was great and an example of true community engagement.”

Lane also designed, supported and coordinated new interdisciplinary courses while pursuing his interest in philosophy at the University of California-Santa Barbara and at Simon Fraser University.

In addition to his devotion to his students, Lane

supported his colleagues in many administrative positions, including Area Chair (the equivalent of Dean) and President of the Faculty Association.

Since retiring in 2000, Lane has served as a commissioner on the Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture Board. He also authored a book entitled *Reading the Bible: Intention, Text, Interpretation* and a book of short stories called *Redneck*.

As Academic Emeritus, Lane plans to continue to read and review books, to offer public lectures, to work with the Institute of Practical Philosophy at VIU and to write stories and poems, as well as write for and edit *Episyllogism*, a philosophy blog.

When asked about receiving the Academic Emeritus designation he replied, “June is an important month in my life. I first heard about Malaspina College in June 1969; I received an Outstanding Service Award in June 2008; and just celebrated 60 years of marriage with Karen Lane in June 2015. And now this! It’s quite an honour.”



“My proudest moments were those where students were involved in intellectual and artistic expressions in the community.”

— Bob Lane



## Continuing connections with VIU

Dr. Rick Rollins retired from VIU in 2014 after a 23-year career as a professor and researcher with VIU’s Department of Recreation and Tourism.

Rollins is passionate about exploring the relationship between tourism and conservation and taught several courses in this area, including Environmental Stewardship, Parks and Protected Areas and Heritage Interpretation.

He says that “tourism can be good or bad for the environment and for host communities, so we need to better understand how to get it right.”

Looking back on his career, Rollins feels his biggest contributions to student learning have been through experiential learning.

“I believe that students learn best if they can connect what they read about in textbooks or hear about in classrooms with something they see or experience in the community,” says Rollins. “It’s a more powerful and meaningful way of learning and becomes part of the lived experience for students.”

This approach was shared by his colleagues in the Department of Recreation and Tourism, making for “a

good fit between my interests and the values shared by the department.”

Rollins explored many approaches to experiential learning and learned much from his colleagues. For example, his classes have undertaken community projects in many nearby communities including Ladysmith, Salt Spring Island, Gabriola Island, Lake Cowichan, Tofino, Bamfield, Port Renfrew and Powell River. He has also involved students in international projects in Ghana, Tanzania and Thailand.

Rollins is an active researcher, having authored or co-authored more 70 refereed journal articles, delivered more than 100 conference presentations and co-edited a major text book “*Parks and Protected Areas in Canada*”.

He involves students in his research and sees research as another form of experiential learning that engages students in a deeper understanding of the tourism and recreation industries.

As Professor Emeritus, Rollins will continue to supervise student thesis projects at VIU in the Master in Sustainable Leisure Management program, which he helped develop. He plans to stay connected to VIU, students and with his VIU colleagues, while still enjoying his other interests and retirement.

“Students learn best if they can connect what they read about in textbooks or hear about in classrooms with something they see or experience in the community.”

— Dr. Rick Rollins

## We'd love it if you'd like us!



Psst! Have you checked out the new VIU News & Events Facebook page?

[www.facebook.ca/viunews](http://www.facebook.ca/viunews)

This initiative was launched in June by University Relations to celebrate and promote the many great stories and events at VIU. Employees are invited to 'like' the new page and share the link with your networks.

## Stay connected —VIU Digest

If you're looking to find out what is going on at VIU, then don't forget to check out the bi-weekly e-newsletter – the VIU Digest. Each issue includes details on special events, lectures and activities taking place at VIU. Make your submission at [www.viu.ca/news/submit](http://www.viu.ca/news/submit).

Deadlines are Friday morning before 11 am for the Monday edition and Wednesday before 11 am for the Thursday edition.

And don't forget! Employees are invited to thank or recognize their colleagues through the SMILE section.



Submit a SMILE by going to [www.viu.ca/news/smile](http://www.viu.ca/news/smile).

## New tool to communicate with students

Student Affairs is improving the way VIU communicates with students.

Every Sunday evening, students receive an email newsletter called The Compass which promotes the wide range of events, activities and resources of interest to students across VIU. Some examples of features might include campus sporting events, fitness classes, art shows, colloquiums and visiting speakers.

The deadline for submissions is 5 pm each Wednesday for publication the following Sunday.

Announcements should be no longer than 75 to 100 words in length. If available, please include a photo and a website address linking to more information. Articles profiling current research projects or initiatives are also welcome.

To make a submission, go to [www.viu.ca/studentaffairs/ezine](http://www.viu.ca/studentaffairs/ezine).

# National book award honours Tla'amin Elder Elsie Paul



Tla'amin, First Nation Elder, Elsie Paul author of *Written as I Remember It: Teachings from the life of a Sliammon Elder*, was awarded an Aboriginal History Book prize by the Canadian Historical Association in Ottawa.

Tla'amin First Nation Elder Elsie Paul, whose traditional name is Qaxustalas, received two major book prizes from the Canadian Historical Association in Ottawa on June 2, 2015 for her book *Written as I Remember It: Teachings from the Life of a Sliammon Elder*. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 2014.

Paul was an Elder in Residence at Vancouver Island University, Powell River campus for four years and received an Honorary Doctor of Letters from VIU in 2010. She is a popular speaker at many cross-cultural events at schools and throughout the community and across the region.

Paul's book was the winner of the Canadian Aboriginal History Book prize and she also received a Clío (Lifetime Achievement Award) for outstanding contribution to BC History. On May 23, 2015, Paul received an Honourable Mention from the BC Historical Federation's Lieutenant Governor's Historical Writing Competition.

"I'm very, very happy," said Paul. "It's wonderful to receive such positive feedback."

Paul, a former social worker, is known for her work as one of the many founding members of Tsow-Tun Le Lum house

treatment centre on Vancouver Island. She recently retired from the Board of Directors after 27 years of service.

"I decided to write the book as a legacy for my children and for future generations," said Paul, who spent two years at a residential school. "It describes how I was raised and brought up by my grandparents and tells the story of our cultural teaching and practices."

She wrote the book in collaboration with her granddaughter Harmony Johnson (one of 17 grandchildren) and Paige Raibmon, an Aboriginal History Professor at the University of British Columbia. The book celebrates the identity, language and traditional practices of the Tla'amin Nation, as she remembers.

"I want it to be clear the book is only from memory. Although we are First Nation people from all over, we all have our own cultural practices. The book is very personal, what I witnessed on the coast, how we lived on the land and how we traded.

"For me, the story about what we went through has never really been told or publicized and my hope is that my book gives people a better understanding."

The book is available through the University of BC Press.

## VIU wins national gold medal for new 'FLedger' system



Celebrating the gold medal victory for VIU (left to right) Dan Hurley, Executive Director, University Relations; Dr. Ralph Nilson, VIU President; Crystal Kreschuk and Sara Abraham, Advancement; Dan Brydges and Andrew Speed, IT; Don Putz, Finance; Susie Caswell, Advancement; Audrey Dubyna and Jennifer Jensen-Richards, Financial Aid and Awards; Shelley Legin, Vice-President, Administration and Finance; and William Litchfield, Director, Advancement and Alumni Relations.

The power of teamwork resulted in a national gold medal for VIU at the Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education (CCAEE) conference in Montreal on June 12.

VIU received a 2015 Prix D'Excellence Gold Medal for Best Advancement Services Initiative for the institution's newly created 'FLedger' system.

"FLedger has revolutionized the way we track gifts, disburse funds and manage awards, scholarships and bursaries," says Susie Caswell, Manager, Gift Planning & Donor Relations.

"It greatly improves our ability to produce detailed and timely financial reports internally and for our donors."

The award-winning system was developed by a team of employees from Advancement and Alumni Relations,

Finance, Information Technology and Financial Aid and Awards.

Caswell says the new system "has streamlined the process of disbursing awards and other funds and eliminated duplicate data entry and burdensome manual processes."

The ongoing improvements in efficiency and quality are felt across many departments and by students, she adds.

A major function of VIU's Advancement and Alumni Relations Office, explains Caswell, is to raise funds for direct student support, including scholarships, awards and bursaries.

Historically, individual awards were tracked using VIU's Financial Records System (FRS), but as the number of VIU awards continued to grow, they exceeded FRS capacity.

"In the face of budget constraints, we could not seek an 'off the shelf' solution so we developed our own," says Caswell.

"The new FLedger system is a creative response to a specialized need not being met in the marketplace."

As the new FLedger system was developed, the team also created an Online Award Application form for students (see story page 7) The entire project far surpassed its original vision and goals, adds Caswell.

The Advancement and Alumni Relations Office is not aware of any similar system in use, in Canada or elsewhere and is now exploring the possibility of duplicating the system at universities with similar needs and resources.



Dr. Carrie Chassels, Executive Director of Student Affairs, presents top male and female academic athlete awards to VIU Mariners Megan Groenendyk and Harrison Stupich.

## VIU Mariners provide 'exciting moments' for fans

With a new season about to begin for the VIU Mariners, Athletic Director Bruce Hunter invites employees to show their support by attending games and cheering on teams in basketball, volleyball, soccer, badminton and golf.

The VIU Mariners enjoyed a "stellar season" last year providing many exciting moments for fans, says Hunter, including representation at seven out of eight Canadian College Athletic Association (CCAA) national championships.

The Mariners won five provincial gold medals (women's soccer, women's volleyball, men's basketball, badminton and golf) and three national silver medals (men's soccer, men's basketball and badminton).

"We also won the Pacific Western Athletic Association (PACWEST) Aggregate Award and the PACWEST Founder's Award for most improved athletics program," said Hunter.

Several VIU employees were honoured for their coaching skills including National Coach of the Year, Matt Kuzminski for women's basketball.

Anup Kang, coach of the VIU Mariners women's soccer team, won High Performance Coach of the Year at the Nanaimo Sports Achievement Awards.

PACWEST Coach of the Year honours went to VIU's Bill Merriman (men's soccer), Janice Walker (badminton) and Matt Kuzminski (women's basketball). See [www.mariners.viu.ca](http://www.mariners.viu.ca) for game times.

## Second Diversity Matters @VIU conference coming soon

A one-day mini-conference in May 2015 called Diversity Matters @ VIU was an opportunity for about 60 faculty and staff to engage in a day of sharing and learning, centred around a range of significant issues related to diversity.

"It was a great success and we plan to repeat it in the fall," says Dr. Carrie Chassels, Executive Director of Student Affairs, who organized the event with the Office of the Provost and a number of contributing faculty and staff.

"We are fortunate to have faculty, staff and student leaders who are making a real difference in the lives of our diverse student population and we want to continually share their work and best practices for supporting teaching, learning and services to meet the diverse needs of VIU students."

VIU is committed to fostering an outstanding experience for all students by recognizing the rights and/or needs they might have with regard to their ancestry, religion, disability, race, colour, family status, sex, gender, sexual orientation, age and any other signifying dimension

that might unfairly limit their opportunities for success at VIU, adds Chassels.

One of the highlights of the first mini-conference was hearing student voices, including a presentation by dynamic keynote speaker Patrick Aleck, an Aboriginal student leader at VIU.

Aleck spoke about what diversity means to him as a student. His talk was followed by a panel discussion facilitated by Chassels; Dr. Steve Lane, Associate Vice-President Academic Planning and Aboriginal Initiatives; and Sharon Hobenshield, Director of the Office of Aboriginal Education.

An engaging panel of international students provided an informative and inspiring conclusion to the conference. The participants at the end of the day expressed their commitment to building on their learning and bringing the issues addressed to their work with students.

Further details about the second annual Diversity Matters @VIU mini-conference will be available soon in the VIU Digest and via email.



A new bookshelf in Building 345 showcases the work of VIU Arts and Humanities faculty.

## Arts and Humanities showcase of books and CDs on display

A beautiful showcase of more than 80 books and CDs written and created by VIU Arts and Humanities faculty is on display in Building 345.

Dr. Ross MacKay, Dean of Arts and Humanities, says the display is another way to celebrate the significant achievements of faculty.

MacKay noticed that the History department had their own showcase and decided to use some extra funds at year end to fund a bookshelf showcase for his entire faculty.

"If you've ever been to the Arts and Humanities Colloquium Series when we've had faculty publications available for purchase, you'll realize, as I did, that our faculty are very prolific," said MacKay.

"This is something we need to celebrate, especially considering that this amazing productivity occurs in spite of a formidable workload.

"VIU's Faculty of Arts and Humanities can hold its own with faculties at other institutions."

"As we received books and CDs from faculty, we realized that we needed to add more shelves," said MacKay. "But due to space constraints, we could not include all publications. We've included a representation of work from 26 faculty."

The overall design of the bookcase, including the lettering on the glass and display holders, was done by Nancy Page, then Chair of VIU's Graphic Design department.

"Nancy devoted an enormous amount of time to this project – all volunteer," said MacKay. "Her brilliant design skills have resulted in a beautiful showcase."

Administrative Assistant, Annette Woolf, solicited all of the books and CDs from faculty, transcribed all the write-ups and coordinated the entire project.

"This is the kind of selfless work on the part of our faculty that make Arts and Humanities such a great place to work," added MacKay.

The showcase was unveiled last December during the faculty Christmas party. All employees are invited to come see it, on the second floor of Building 345.



### Arts and Humanities Colloquium Series Showcase

If you missed any of the popular Arts & Humanities Colloquium Series, don't despair. A new showcase in Building 345 houses a collection of DVDs of faculty presentations in this series.

The series is filmed and the DVDs are produced, by students in VIU's Media Studies Department's Media Research Lab.

The DVDs are available for loan at the VIU Library and will soon be available in digital form through VIUSpace, the Library's online repository at [viuspace.viu.ca](http://viuspace.viu.ca).

Join us for a **reflective** and **intellectually engaging** series of faculty presentations followed by **discussion** and accompanied by refreshments.

**VIU**

**FREE PUBLIC LECTURES**

*The Arts & Humanities Colloquium Series* SPRING 2015

All presentations 10 am-11:30 am  
Malaspina Theatre | Building 310  
Vancouver Island University | Nanaimo Campus

**September 25**  
Susan Juby, Creative Writing Department  
**The Truth and Nothing but the Truth?**  
The line between truth and fiction can be blurry and it certainly is in Susan Juby's new novel, *The Truth Commission*. The award-winning author will discuss the creation of this illustrated young adult novel, which examines the complex issues of the truth in stories.

**October 16**  
Gregory Bush, Music Department  
**A Journey in Jazz: From Inspiration to Performance**  
Where does the musical idea come from? How is it developed and translated into notes on a page and then interpreted in performance? This presentation -- and performance -- will follow the process of musical composition from an idea to our ears.

**November 20**  
Allyson Anderson, First Nations Studies Department  
**"Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves": The Contrapuntal Rantings of a Half-Breed Girl**  
Stereotypes of Indigenous women abound in the colonial imaginations of North Americans, yet representations of the Métisse (women of mixed blood and/or historic Métis) are rare. This presentation asserts that the few (mis)representations that do exist are rooted in Euro-settlers' anxiety about their appropriation of Indigenous lands and potential lines of inheritance.

**Talking Arts, Seeing Ideas.**

For further information contact:  
Dr. Dawn Thompson at [dawn.thompson@viu.ca](mailto:dawn.thompson@viu.ca)  
[viu.ca/artsandhumanities/Arts\\_Humanities\\_Colloquium.asp](http://viu.ca/artsandhumanities/Arts_Humanities_Colloquium.asp)  
Support for the Colloquium is provided by Ros Davies and by the Dean of Arts and Humanities, Dr. Ross MacKay

VIUArtsandHumanities @VIUTalkingArts

### New Student Orientation September 3

More than 1,200 new students and parents will attend the Rock the VIU: New Student Orientation on September 3, 9 am to 2 pm at the Nanaimo campus.

"If your department or service area is planning a program-specific event or activity during Welcome Week (August 23 – 28) or New Student Orientation, please email [enrolmentmanagement@viu.ca](mailto:enrolmentmanagement@viu.ca) so that it can be advertised on the main orientation website," says Heather Burke, Recruitment Officer. Employees are also needed to help at the VIU Connect: Information Fair and at the annual barbecue.

### International Education events slated for Fall and Winter

#### World VIU Days November 2 – 6, 2015

Hosted by the International Education department, the theme of World VIU Days this year is "Creating a Connected Community".

Keynote speaker Charles Montgomery, author of the book *Happy City*, will present a free public lecture Nov. 3, 7 pm at the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre.

The popular Multicultural Festival will take place on Nov. 6, 12 noon to 3 pm in the Upper Cafeteria. Stay tuned for a full schedule of events at [www.viu.ca/worldviudays](http://www.viu.ca/worldviudays).

Faculty who would like to involve their classes in World VIU Days may email coordinator [mckenzie.sillem@viu.ca](mailto:mckenzie.sillem@viu.ca). Participation from VIU staff is also welcome.

#### International Development Week February 1 – 5, 2016

Following World VIU Days, the VIU community will mark International Development Week this year with campus events, visiting speakers and classroom dialogues that celebrate global citizenship on campus and beyond.

Get ready to delve into global issues and showcase the work of students, staff and faculty who are making positive change in their communities and around the globe.

Contact coordinator Darrell Harvey at [darrell.harvey@viu.ca](mailto:darrell.harvey@viu.ca) for more information and to get involved.

### VIU Institute of Coastal Research (ICR) Special Event

September 24

12 noon to 1 pm, ICR Lounge, Building 305/4th Floor

Joshua Stoll, ICR Fellow; Ali Witter, ICR Fellow and Michele Patterson, ICR Coordinator will present a lunchtime talk on Community Based Fisheries as a fisheries diversification model – current research and experiences.

### Bring your Lunch & Learn

Another semester of interesting Lunch & Learn sessions will kick off in September every Tuesday from noon to 1 pm in the ICR Lounge (Building 305/4th Floor). Here are some highlights from the list of confirmed speakers and topics:

#### September 29

Dr. Alan Gilchrist, Professor, Department of Biology

**Topic:** Annual Crop Water Requirements for Vancouver Island: The Impact of Climate Change

#### October 6

Michele Patterson, Coordinator Institute for Coastal Research

**Topic:** PhD research – What is a farmed salmon? Understanding the social life of a seafood commodity from ocean to table

#### December 1

Catherine Brazier, Principal, The High School at VIU

**Topic:** University of BC Doctorate of Education research looking at the model of high schools as part of a university through the philosophical lens of Hannah Arendt's notion of "spaces of appearance."

## Inside VIU

Connecting the VIU community

Inside VIU employee newsletter is produced by VIU's University Relations department and Human Resources.

**Managing Editor:** Janina Stajic, Manager, Communications and Public Engagement

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