



Volume 44 Number 3 • Fall, 1990

# Chronicle

**Inside:**

75 Years of  
Research,  
Athletics, Arts,  
Libraries  
...and more

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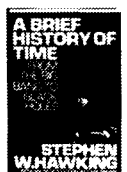
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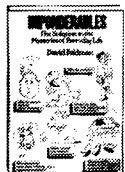
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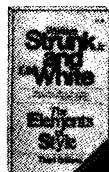
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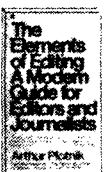
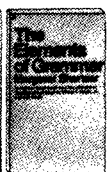
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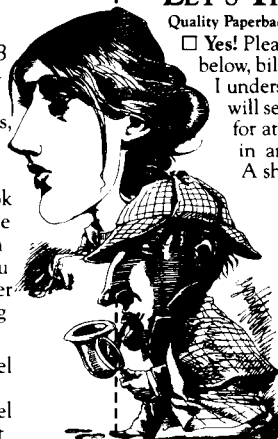
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Archival Photos courtesy of UBC Archives

The UBC Alumni Chronicle is published quarterly by the UBC Alumni Association, and is distributed free to all graduates. Member, Council for the Advancement and Support of Education. Indexed in Canadian Education Index. ISSN 0824-1279.

Printed In Canada.

### Executive Director

Deborah Apps

## Editor's Notes

This issue of the Chronicle presents you with a taste of UBC history. We've included a look at research, the arts, sports and some profiles of famous grads.

Any attempt to sum up 75 years of active history, especially in 48 pages, is doomed to be merely approximate: enough history, humour, invention, insight and pure love of endeavour has happened on this campus to fill many books. Our magazine can only breeze through a few examples, give a few glimpses, entice a few readers to seek out more.

For such a large, dynamic university, it's an amazement that there isn't more written about its history. Yet, our science writer says that little has been written about UBC research since the '50s, and the

man who wrote our athletics article did so, he says, to make a starting point for something bigger. Even the article on the arts, excerpted as it is from a larger work, only scratches the surface.

Consider this issue of the Chronicle as a bit of finger food, a small dish of hors d'oeuvres. The real, full UBC is out here on the cliffs of Point Grey, awaiting your investigation.

We hope you enjoy this issue, and that you take the time to come out to Homecoming. Pages 24 and 25 contain a breakdown of the activities you can attend, or just come out and browse through the bookstore and the libraries. Oh, and keep an eye out for Queen Boadicea's third cousin.

—CP



# Chronicle

## Board of Management Elected Members 1990-91

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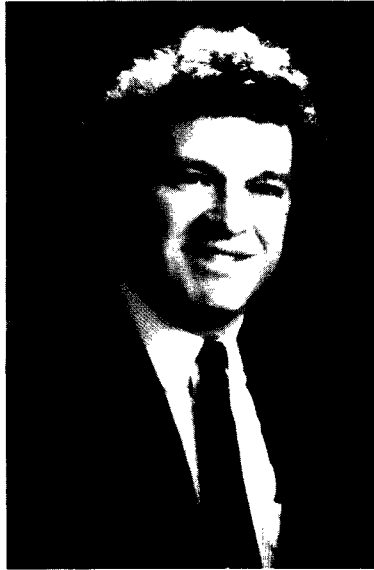
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## From the President

Homecoming is an unusual event in the university calendar. During the rest of the year, the business of a university is training inquisitive minds, conducting research into the mysteries of our time and advancing the knowledge brought down to us from the ages. But during Homecoming the products of a university, its alumni, come back to look at the place that has shaped much of their lives.

This year's Homecoming is particularly appealing. The university has been producing leaders in business, science, education and the arts for 75 years, and Homecoming events are aimed at celebrating the accomplishments of the university and its graduates like never before.

Most of us still see UBC the way it was when we were students here. We remember our haunts, our favourite cafeteria, the residences, the people we knew, the profs. Most of us are shocked when we come back to campus for the first time in many years. Construction has been fairly consistent over the years, and while many of the old haunts don't exist any more, each new generation of students finds and establishes their own.

But that's the nature of UBC, and part of what makes it such an exciting place. UBC has more than kept up with the rest of the world in terms of invention and fresh thinking: it leads the world in many areas. Our alma mater is developing ties with Asia Pacific nations that will stimulate more investment and more jobs in B.C. than ever before. We are attracting researchers in all areas of the university from all parts of the world. Our reputation and our record of achievement continues to grow.

So, take some time to come home to your university. Have a look around and notice all the things that have never changed amidst all the things that have. You'll notice that regardless of the changes, there's still excitement in the air, still a sense of great things happening.

UBC, like any university, depends on its alumni. Much of its success is due to those graduates who have helped build a strong province, and to those international grads who have built UBC's reputation abroad.

Homecoming is a chance for you to get to know your university all over again. Welcome back.

Mel Reeves BComm'75, MSc'77, LLB  
President, UBC Alumni Association

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# Homecoming Reunions

For more information on these reunions and on other Homecoming activities, see pages 24—25 or phone the Association.

**Class of 1930:** 60th Anniversary Reception & Dinner, Sept. 5, Faculty Club.

**Class of 1940:** 50th Anniversary Dinner, Sept. 28, Faculty Club; Campus Bus Tour and Luncheon at Cecil Green Park, Sept. 29.

**Class of 1945 Civil Engineering:** Sept. 29, Faculty Club.

**Class of 1950 Engineering:** Dinner, Sept. 29, Faculty Club. Contact Mark Bradwell 988-5025 for more information.

**Class of 1950 PE and Recreation:** Reunion Brunch, Sept. 30

**Class of 1960 Civil Engineering:** Reunion, Sept. 28; Dinner, Sept. 29, Graduate Students' Centre.

**Class of 1960 Forestry:** Oct. 13-14, Harrison.

**Class of 1960 Medicine:** Sept. 14-15, Blackcomb Lodge, Whistler.

**Class of 1965 Engineering:** 25th Anniversary, Sept. 29, Engineers' Club.

**Class of 1965 Pharmacy:** Sept. 29, meet at Holiday Inn on Broadway.

**Class of 1965 Geography:** Sept. 29, UBC.

**Class of '70 Law:** Delta Mountain Inn, Whistler, September 14-16.

**Class of '70 Medicine:** Delta Mountain Inn Whistler September 28-29.

**Class of '75 Nursing:** September 15.

**Class of '80 Electrical Engineers:** September 20, Engineers Club and on September 21 at Cecil Green

**Class of '80 Forestry:** Vernon Park Lodge August 17-19.

**Class of '80 Geography:** September 29 at the Faculty Club.

**Class of '80 Law:** September 28 at Cecil Green Park.

**Class of '80 Medicine:** Whistler September 15-17.

## Celebrate with books from UBC Press

### Words We Call Home

CELEBRATING CREATIVE WRITING AT UBC

Edited by Linda Svendsen

This commemorative anthology celebrates more than 25 years of achievement for the UBC Creative Writing department. The more than 60 poets, dramatists, and fiction writers included, many of them winners of prestigious literary awards, provide just a sample of the energy and vision the department has fostered. *Words We Call Home* is a collection of work that will hold a special place in the hearts of those who have watched UBC grow and flourish over the years and of everyone who loves literature. \$19.95 \*

Several of the writers represented in this book will be participating at this year's Vancouver Writers Festival, 24-28 October.

### 'Dear Nan'

LETTERS OF EMILY CARR,  
NAN CHENEY, AND HUMPHREY TOMS

Edited by Doreen Walker

Filled with colourful descriptions of everyday activities and revealing comments about other artists and the local art scene, the letters in this collection were written during the most prolific period in Emily Carr's career as both painter and writer. Of the 250 letters included in the book, 150 were written by Emily Carr while the remaining 100 all relate to Emily Carr. "This group of letters has a sweep to it, a sense of change through time, that is quite exciting." Dennis Reid, Curator of Canadian Historical Art, Art Gallery of Ontario. "Here we get the inimitable revelation of the practical everyday and earthy Emily, the irrepressible comic who sees things naturally in terms of amusing homey metaphor." Doris Shadbolt, author of *Emily Carr*. October, 4 pp colour and 8 pp b/w photographs, \$29.95

### Native Writers and Canadian Writing

Edited by W. H. New

This book is a celebration of Native literature as an integral part of the Canadian cultural scene. It focuses on literature by and about Canada's Native peoples and contains original essays and poems by Native and non-Native writers. These not only reflect the growing prominence of contemporary Native writing but also direct the reader to the myths, rituals, and songs that have inspired it. hc \$34.95, pb \$19.95 \*

\* These books have been produced to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the University of British Columbia

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# Blythe A. Eagles

1902—1990

**D**ean Emeritus Blythe Eagles died July 11, 1990. He was born in 1902 in New Westminster and graduated from UBC in 1922 with double honours in biology and chemistry, and a minor in agriculture. He did not participate in the Great Trek, but helped organize it, and often paid tribute to the quality of his education at the "Fairview shacks." He was a lifelong supporter of UBC and the Alumni Association.

After graduation, Eagles took a fellowship at the U of T, where he obtained his M.A. He went on to get his PhD at Yale University. He worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and then studied in England and Germany, where he worked with some of the world's foremost chemists, physiologists and microbiologists. In later years these first-hand acquaintances gave an unmatched vitality to his course on the history of biochemistry.

In 1927 Dean Eagles returned to UBC to teach and to pursue research. In the tough years of the Depression he

was employed as a chemist by the Powell River Pulp and Paper Company but was able to resume teaching in 1933 and became head of the department of dairying. In 1955 he became chairman of the division of animal sciences and dean of the faculty of agriculture, positions he retained until his retirement in 1967. UBC honoured him as a Great Trekker in 1966 and awarded him an Honorary Doctorate of Sciences in 1968.

Dr. Eagles was a superb teacher and, like many prominent scientists, his personal research is best recorded in the outstanding research of his students. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, the Chemical Society of Canada and the Agricultural Institute of Canada.

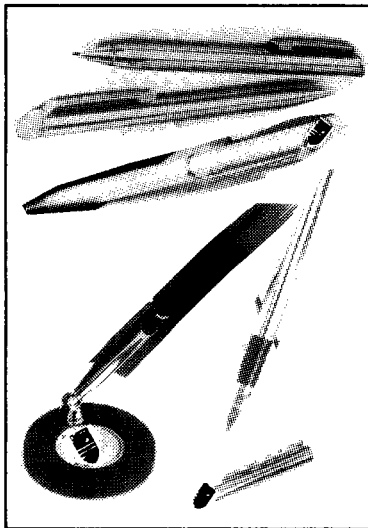
Under his deanship, the faculty developed new programs and moved from wartime huts to the MacMillan Building. Few students passed through the faculty who did not enjoy the hospitality of the Eagles' home on Deer Lake. Faculty, neighbours and visitors



remember the warmth of the gatherings and garden parties. Faculty children, now grown and with families of their own, will remember the Christmas parties the Eagles hosted in the old Agricultural Engineering and Mechanics Building on campus.

Dean Eagles is survived by his wife, Violet Eagles, and nephews Phillip and Steven Herring and their children.

—*Food for Thought*, the newsletter of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences



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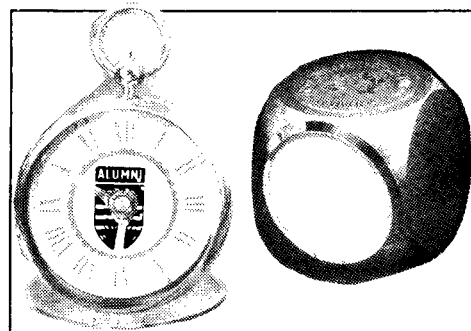
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# Seventy-Five Years of Meeting the Challenge

David W. Strangway, President

**E**ach generation in UBC's 75 years has provided its own unique challenge to the university, and each of these challenges has produced a major evolutionary change in the university. In 1915, we began granting degrees under our own name, not under McGill's, and the university gained its own identity. In 1922, students convinced the government to continue building the Point Grey site, and the university gained a permanent home.

The financial calamity of the '30s very nearly caused the closure of UBC. But public outcry, belt tightening and good management proved that the university had developed fiscal maturity.

The demands of research during World War II, and the overwhelming influx of returning vets afterwards, proved to be one of the greatest challenges the university ever faced. The rapid growth demanded by both those forces caused upset, to be sure, but the result was a larger, far more responsive institution.

In the '60s, baby boomers reached university age and put great stress on our institutions. In the same decade, B.C.'s post-secondary system grew with the addition of degree granting universities and a province-wide system of colleges. From being the only major post secondary institution in the province in 1960, UBC had become, by the late '60s, the premier institution within a system that served a wide variety of community needs.

The economic restraint of the early '80s was another time of great stress for us. However, the lessons of the Depression had been learned well: despite down-sizing and shrinking budgets, the university was able to draw on the strength of its faculty, staff and students and emerged from the period strong and intact.

The current period is no less of a challenge, and represents another important evolutionary phase in the university's history. The mid '80s presented a host of opportunities to UBC. When I began my term as president, it was clear to me that these opportunities were exactly right for the university in terms of its evolution as a world-class university. In the Mission Statement published in 1989, this evolutionary step was spelled out. We rein-

forced our role as both an undergraduate and, increasingly, a graduate university, and we focused on our strength in the study of the Pacific Rim.

We took a leading role in working with colleges in Kamloops and Kelowna to ensure that there would be degree granting opportunities outside the Lower Mainland.

The **World of Opportunity Campaign** we launched two years ago has been very successful. It has made it possible for us to take advantage of new research opportunities in the arts and sciences, build new facilities, fund new scholarships, hire new academics and further develop the vision Frank Fairchild Wesbrook had 75 years ago: to build a university of global stature that provides an economic, cultural and social focus for all the people of British Columbia.

We have never been stronger in terms of research, and we plan to grow even stronger. Recent Centres of Excellence grants competitively awarded to UBC were greater than those awarded to any other university in Canada. Grants we attract in the faculty of education are second to none, and we continue to be highly competitive in attracting funding to social sciences and humanities research. In addition to their commitment to match the funds we raise in the campaign, the B.C. government has announced its five year capital building plan to construct badly needed facilities on campus. These plans complement the government's intention to expand the degree granting opportunities in the province (both graduate and undergraduate), ensuring that our participation rate is competitive with the rest of Canada.

All this adds up to a very exciting period for advanced education in B.C., and for the university.

As alumni, this may be one of the best times in our history for you to return to campus for our Homecoming celebrations. When you do, take a walk around campus and notice all the signs announcing new buildings. When you come back to Homecoming in the year 2000, the campus will be transformed.

But whatever the changes wrought to UBC physically, the spirit remains the same. Remember, it is YOUR university. We welcome you to celebrate 75 years of history with us, and to help us open the doors to the next 75.



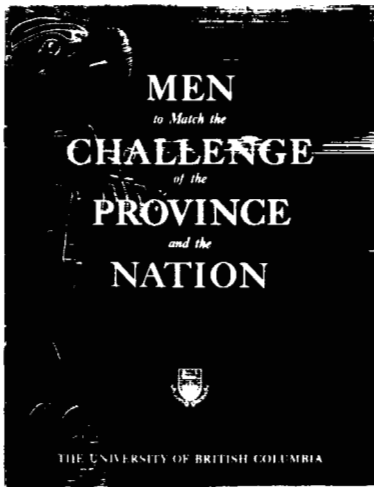
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# 1957

Kids are watching Leave it to Beaver, the Mickey Mouse Club and I Love Lucy. People are jiving to La Bamba. Elvis is

making headlines: "Long Live the King of Rock and Roll!"

**UBC launches the first major campaign for funds in its 42-year history.**

The "Men to Match the Challenge of the Province and the Nation" campaign was launched in September 1957. The population on campus was 8,900, about the same as that of the city of Kamloops. The 12,000 students expected in 1961 would be equivalent to the population of Nanaimo. UBC was bursting at the seams, with more than 300 former army huts making up to 50 per cent of the university's total building accommodations.

The campaign, also called "the plan for '65," was designed to help the university meet its immediate and most urgent requirements, and appealed for a total of \$5 million from industry and the general public. The provincial government would match all funds. Projects earmarked for funding included:

- **Medical Sciences Building**
- **Forestry and Agriculture Building**
- **Education Building**
- **Chemistry Building Addition**
- **Fine Arts and Architecture Building**
- **Dentistry Building**
- **Library Addition**
- **Residences**
- **Commerce & Business Administration Building**
- **Recreational Facilities**
- **Life Sciences Building Addition**
- **Faculty Club**

"The support of students and alumni to the campaign was outstanding," said UBC President Norman MacKenzie. Students raised more

than \$500,000 for the university and alumni provided leadership for local campaigns throughout B.C. and abroad. Alumni and faculty giving reached a total of \$450,000. In April, 1958, the total contribution from industry and the general public had reached \$8.5 million.

Hard on the heels of the 1957 cam-

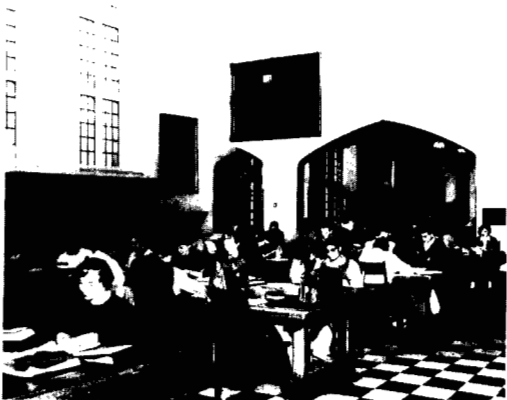


UBC's "boy and girl of '65." This promotional photo was taken for the 1957 campaign with the caption: "When they are ready for UBC, will UBC be ready for them?"

paign, in 1964, the provincial government announced the start of a Tri-University campaign to raise funds for UBC, SFU and UVic. The campaign was a first in several respects: it was the first combined appeal in North America by three universities; the objective of \$28 million was the highest goal ever set in Canadian fund raising; by August 1965, pledges surpassed \$19 million and constituted the largest sum raised in any campaign in Canadian history.

The money raised from those campaigns helped to establish UBC as a major university with excellent facilities. Now, UBC needs help to meet the challenges of the '90s and the 21st Century.

Opportunity



Studying in the 1950s



# 1990

**Kids are watching re-runs of Leave it to Beaver, the Mickey Mouse Club and I Love Lucy. People are lambada-ing to La Bamba.**

**Elvis sightings are making headlines: "The King of Rock and Roll is Alive!"**

**UBC has launched the biggest university fund-raising campaign in Canadian history.**

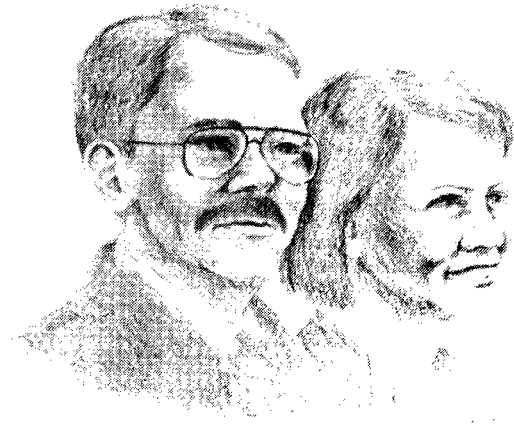
The "World of Opportunity" campaign was launched in March 1989. The population on campus has grown to 50,000, about the same as that of the city of West Vancouver. In the 25 years since the last major campaign, the university has urgently needed a multi-million dollar infusion of capital to construct new buildings and to keep the old ones from falling apart. In addition, UBC President David Strangway has appealed for help in completing what he refers to as the "unfinished campus."

At its launch, the campaign goal was \$132 million, including dollar-for-dollar matching funds from the provincial government. The money raised through the campaign will provide the university with facilities, scholarships, endowed chairs and equipment. The more than 80 projects earmarked for funding include:

- **Library**
- **Institute for Asian Research**
- **Chair in Paediatric Infectious Diseases**
- **Creative Arts Centre**
- **Chair in Neurosciences**
- **Student Sports Facilities**
- **Disability Resource Centre and Rick Hansen National Fellow**
- **Media and Graphics Interdisciplinary Centre**
- **Chair in Landscape and Liveable Environments**
- **Food Quality and Management Centre**
- **Centre for Applied Ethics**

Alumni are especially encouraged to contribute to the **President's Fund** - an unrestricted endowment of \$24

million. It will give the university flexibility to fund unexpected opportunities in the areas of learning, research, public service, national entrance scholarships and graduate fellowships. Thanks to pledges already made by the Vancouver Foundation and the provincial government, alumni contributing specifically to the President's Fund can



*UBC's "boy and girl of '65" undergo the aging process, as illustrated by UBC's department of biomedical communications. Their children could now be attending the university.*

see their donations quadruple in value.

To date, a number of buildings have been fully funded through the campaign: the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, Green College, the Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery and the David Lam Management Research Centre.

The campaign has progressed extremely well and the university is ahead of its goal at the mid-point. Despite the success, many priority projects are not fully funded.

Fund-raising campaigns of the 1950s and '60s helped to shape UBC into the institution of excellence it is today. Once again, the university needs our support to ensure its future.



**Studying in the 1990s**

## Take a Bicycle Trip to Provence!

Provence in May: air thick with the scent of flowers, market stalls full of early-summer fruit, croque monsieur and a cup of espresso or un demi at a sidewalk café. Landscapes right out of a Van Gogh painting. Arles, Remy-de-Provence, Reims. Heaven.

The Alumni Association, with Atlas Travel, is organizing a bicycle tour of this magic part of France for the Spring of 1991. Interested in the trip of a lifetime? Call Hilde Gregory at the Alumni Association offices, 228-3313 for details.

## California Newsletter in the Works

California Alumni will soon be getting their own Newsletter. Grads in the golden state should send news, pics and updated addresses ASAP so we can get to work!

The purpose of the Newsletter is to engender a sense of UBC unity among California grads, to help publicize UBC abroad, help you form a network, and encourage Californians to think about UBC when they think of going to an

out-of-state university.

Mail your news to "California Branch News," care of the Association offices.

## UBC Alumni: Whereabouts Unknown

We have contracted with the Harris Publishing Co. to produce a directory of all living UBC grads. The new UBC Alumni Directory will be an up-to-date, complete reference of over 95,000 UBC alumni. You will soon be able to locate all your old friends with this library-quality directory.

Harris will be researching and compiling the data for the directory by mailing a questionnaire to every alumni. If you prefer not to be listed, please contact us as soon as possible.

Look for more details on this project in future issues of The Chronicle.

We would like to offer a special thanks to Jim Dutton and Alan Lawley, managers of **The Rose and Crown Pub** at Yonge & Eglinton in Toronto for their support of the TO Branch Pub Nights

## Branch Activities

**London:** 140 Alumni and friends joined Chancellor Leslie Peterson at BC House on July 27 to help celebrate UBC's 75th.

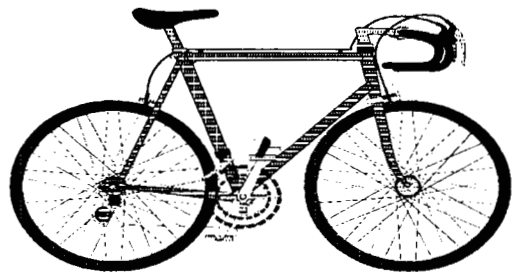
**Kelowna:** Alumni and members of the UBC Board of Governors attended a dinner on June 6 to commemorate the 75th.

**Los Angeles/San Diego:** 35 Alumni and friends attended a BBQ at the La Jolla Beach and Country Club on July 14. Watch for details on the next event in November or December. Watch for the California Newsletter!

**Calgary:** A panel discussion on the environment and sustainable resources will be held in Calgary on September 25 in the Science Hall, 7:30—9:30 pm, University of Calgary.

**Toronto:** The regular Alumni Pub Night will be held at the Rose and Crown, Yonge and Eglinton at 8:00 pm on September 19. All Alumni and friends welcome.

# COME ON!



*LET'S GO CYCLING!  
...THROUGH THE SOUTH  
OF FRANCE*

*MAY 24, 1991*

## THE UBC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION & ATLAS TRAVEL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

.....invite you to join them! If you are between the ages of 18 and 82, this trip's for you! Designed for the casual cyclist, you'll see France at your leisure. Warm up with a ride to the Pont du Gard, cycle through the vineyards of Chateauneuf de Pape, past Roman Ruins and medieval villages of the Provence area. Accommodation is deluxe and unique and meals will be a sample of France's best. Land package for 9 days - \$3239.00 Cdn. per person Based on two sharing. Comprehensive Insurance - \$34.00

**RESERVE BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 1990**

UBC ALUMNI OFFICE, 6251 Cecil Green Park Road, Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1W5 or call 604-228-3313

- YES! I'm interested! Rush me more information.
- YES! I'm going! Deposit of \$500.00 per person enclosed.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

## Call for Nominations

Since we will not be printing a Fall edition of the Chronicle, we are calling for nominations in this issue. Ballots and nominees for next year's Board of Management will be included in the Spring Chronicle. At that time, the Senior Vice-President, Treasurer and 3 Members-at-Large will be elected.

The Senior Vice-President serves for one year then automatically becomes President of the Alumni Association. The Treasurer serves for one year and is responsible for the financial reports of the Association. Members-at-Large serve for two years, sit on the Board and work on various committees.

Any graduate of UBC is eligible to run for office. If you are interested in running for any of these positions, please send your name, address and year of graduation along with a brief

statement of your platform. The nomination must be accompanied by the signatures of five nominators who are also graduates of UBC.

If you have any questions about these positions, please call the Alumni Association offices at (604) 228-3313.

**The deadline for nominations is 4:00 pm Thursday, February 14, 1991. Send completed nominations to: Dave Coulson, Senior VP, 6251 Cecil Green Park Road, Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1W5.**



A Watercolour by Toni Onley. "UBC, 15 December, 1989"

Dear Fellow Graduates,

In honour of the 75th Anniversary of UBC, B.C. artist Toni Onley created a beautiful watercolour painting of the UBC Campus which was featured on the cover of the UBC Chronicle (Summer, 1990). We are pleased to be able to offer you a high quality reproduction of this painting, suitable for framing, as a unique memento of your University. The same image has been used to create a handsome greeting card, available in sets of one dozen. Proceeds will be used to enhance graduate training at UBC.

Name _____ Address _____ _____ Signature _____	Tel. _____ _____ Postal Code _____	Quantity [ ] 24" x 28" @ \$25 ea. [ ] 1 Doz. Greeting Cards @ \$18 p/doz. Sub Total +6% S.T. Shipping +\$4 for 1 or more posters +\$4 for each box of cards Total enclosed
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Make cheque or money order payable to **Department of Psychology, UBC** and return to: 2136 W. Mall, UBC, Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Y7

# From Humble Beginnings

## *UBC's Origins and First Decade*

by Christopher Hives

The idea of establishing a provincial university in B.C. first came in 1877 from John Jessop, superintendent of education. He was concerned that local students would be forced to travel to other provinces and countries to get a university education. But other considerations occupied the attention of those responsible for building a new province and the matter of a provincial university lay dormant until the 1890s.

In 1890, the provincial legislature passed "An Act Respecting the University of British Columbia." Under terms of the Act, all graduates of any university in the Dominion residing in British Columbia became members of the university and constituted the first convocation. A committee struck at the first meeting of convocation drafted a series of amendments to the 1890 Act which were adopted and passed in 1891. Unfortunately, the "British Columbia Amendment Act" carried the seeds of its own destruction. One of its provisions required that a meeting of senate be held within one month of the election of senate by convocation. After the June 1891 election of Senators the July meeting failed to produce a quorum. Consequently, no further action was possible under the 1891 Act and the first attempt to establish the University of British Columbia failed.

With virtually no prospect of establishing a provincial university immediately, those interested in the matter of higher education in B.C. explored the idea of setting up a working relationship with existing Canadian universities. Acts passed in 1894 and 1896 allowed B.C. high schools to affiliate with Canadian universities. The high schools could then be incorporated as colleges of those institutions. Under these enactments Vancouver High School affiliated with McGill University in 1899 and offered first year Arts courses under the name Vancouver College. Although the success of the program prompted an expansion in course offerings to include second year Arts courses in 1902, students were still required to travel to McGill University to complete their degrees.

The effort to establish closer connections with McGill, and to provide a wider selection of offerings resulted in two 1906 Acts which provided for the establishment of McGill University College of British Columbia. All connections with Vancouver College were severed and the new institution functioned as an independent college of McGill. McGill University College operated between 1906 and 1915 and allowed several hundred B.C. students the luxury of home-based higher education. Although it experienced substan-

tial support, this development did not proceed unopposed. Some people hoped for an affiliation with the University of Toronto while others felt it vital to develop an indigenous institution. The arrangement was attractive to the government, as it allowed for the provision of higher education without requiring the province to underwrite the entire cost.

The establishment of McGill University College of B.C. did little to discourage the efforts of those wanting to build a provincial university. In 1908, their efforts resulted in the passage of "An Act to Establish and Incorporate a University for the Province of British Columbia." Much of the credit for this legislation belongs to the personal efforts of Dr. Henry Esson Young, who served as provincial secretary and minister of education.

The provincial legislature passed an act in 1910 establishing a Site Commission. After a careful examination of several cities and rural areas, the commission selected Point



Grey as the most suitable location for the university. The government agreed and granted a 175-acre site at Point Grey to the university.

In 1912 Young announced a competition for the general design of the university as well as detailed plans of four buildings to be constructed immediately at the Point Grey campus. The plans submitted by the firm of Sharp and Thompson won the competition. The most significant event of 1912 was the first meeting of convocation under the terms of the 1908 Act. The 849 members of convocation elected Francis Carter-Cotton as UBC's first chancellor, and a fifteen-member senate. This meeting laid the foundation for the establishment of the new university.

Frank F. Wesbrook became the university's first president in 1913 after a lengthy and judicious selection process. In describing the criteria for filling the position Young explained that the candidate had to be "first of all a Canadian, young enough to take charge vigorously, a man thoroughly capable of the hardest job outside that of Premier in British Columbia." Wesbrook came to UBC after a distinguished medical and administrative career at the University of Minnesota. He brought with him a grand vision of what the university might become. Wesbrook inspired idealism in those who knew him and he sought to broaden the concepts of the function of a provincial university. In describing his goals for the university he said "...may ours be a provincial university without provincialism. May our sympathies be so broadened and our service so extended to all the people of the Province that we may indeed be the people's university, whose motto is *tuum est*."

Wesbrook, together with the board of governors and the senate, assumed the task of organizing the new university and ensuring that it opened, as originally scheduled, Fall of 1913. The enormity of the task, however, prompted Wesbrook to request that McGill University College continue to provide higher education in B.C. for two more years.

In 1913 the Legislature voted \$500,000 for university funding with a promise of \$1,000,000 for the following year.

This enabled the university to proceed with the task of clearing the Point Grey campus. Work began on the Science Building the following summer and soon the concrete and steel framework began to take shape.

The outbreak of World War I halted the ambitious plans for the Point Grey campus. With the diversion of resources for the war effort it was decided to withhold the contract for the completion of the science building and to postpone expenditures for the library and grounds. For almost a decade the bare girders of the science building came to symbolize the unrealized vision of the Point Grey campus.

## UBC Opens at Fairview (1915)

In spite of suspending work on the campus, the provincial government did provide sufficient funds to open the University of British Columbia on 30 September 1915. At that time, many of the faculty, staff and students, as well as the assets of McGill University College were transferred to the new provincial university. The opening of UBC on the Fairview property of Vancouver General Hospital passed without ostentatious ceremony in deference to the demands of the war and because the facility lacked any building large enough to accommodate the entire student body of 379.

The use of the shacks at Fairview was viewed as an exigency measure and those connected with the new university hoped that work would soon resume on the Point Grey campus. With a depleted treasury, however, the provincial government did not consider the expenditure of funds on the university as a high priority. UBC would spend its first decade at Fairview. Unfortunately, president Wesbrook died shortly before the Armistice in 1918—his dreams for a new campus for the university still unrealized. He was replaced by Leonard S. Klinck who had been the university's first appointment as dean of agriculture in 1914.

With every passing year at Fairview, the inadequacy of the facilities became increasingly obvious. Between 1916 and 1922 enrolment at UBC expanded by 211% while the



(left) Frank Fairchild Wesbrook (3rd from left) and site architects pour over designs for UBC in 1913. (above) Fairview campus looking east from roof of King Edward School, 1915-19.



*The view west from the library, May, 1924 (top) and September, 1925. The rail line in the 1924 photo connected to the aerial tramway that brought building supplies up the cliffs from the ocean.*

capacity of the buildings had only grown by 25%. The public and private wards of a small three-floor former hospital building made reasonably good classrooms while the rest of the facilities including the auditorium, offices and lecture rooms were housed in old army shacks. As the number of students grew, additional space had to be found. Agricultural classes were conducted in a private residence, French taught in the basement of a Baptist Church unused by its congregation during the week, and chemistry classes conducted in the famous "chemistry tent" erected on the Fairview site.

Despite the overcrowded conditions and inadequate facilities, the experience of the students at Fairview was not entirely negative. In the period following the war, returned soldiers brought back with them a spirit of optimism. J.V. Clyne later recalled his Fairview years as "a very happy and exciting experience." There existed a feeling of camaraderie and a sense of participation in the building of a great B.C. institution. Clyne added that it was a "highly rewarding and fruitful experience for young people to have had the oppor-

tunity of associating on a more or less equal basis with men of wit, wisdom and great intellectual capacity." Despite these positive aspects, however, the truth remained that UBC desperately needed new facilities.

### **Student Campaign and Great Trek (1922)**

The increasing hardships in conducting classes at Fairview prompted UBC students to solicit public support through a petition to encourage the provincial government to resume work at Point Grey. A.M.S. president Ab Richards headed a "Build the University" campaign beginning in the Spring of 1922. An Executive Committee consisting of Richards, R.L. McLeod, J.V. Clyne, Betty Somerset, Marjorie Agnew, Jack Grant, Aubrey Roberts, Al Buchanan, Percy Barr and Alumni Association president John Allardyce coordinated the student activities. The campaign began with the collection of signatures when students went back to their home towns for the summer. After returning to Vancouver in the Fall, the students took their petition door-to-door and also spoke to various organizations. The publicity



campaign also received good support from the press. The week of October 22nd to 29th was declared Varsity Week. By this time the signatures on the petition numbered 56,000. The activities of the week ended in the pilgrimage to Point Grey, now known as the Great Trek.

On October 28th almost 1,200 students with floats, bands and banners marched through downtown Vancouver and on to the Point Grey campus. Arriving late in the afternoon, the students climbed the concrete stairs of the Science Building and hung their banners on the exposed girders. The students then formed a living "U B C" on the ground as a symbolic gesture to lay claim to the unfinished campus. The pilgrimage ended with the dedication of the cairn which still stands in front of the Chemistry Building. The students threw stones in the hollow centre of the structure which had been designed by the university architects and built from rocks gathered on the campus site. It was somehow fitting that the students completed the first structure at Point Grey. Richards expressed the hope that "very soon around this pile of rock, buildings will rise and a university be established which will bring credit to our Alma

Mater and renown to the province."

Following the trek, Richards, Grant and Clyne went to Victoria and presented the 56,000-name petition to Cabinet. Six page boys hauled the petition rolls into the House. Premier John Oliver adjourned the Legislature to listen to the student representatives. Their presentation and the solid public support shown by the petition convinced the government to resume work on the Point Grey site.

The successful campaign to "Build the University" was noteworthy in that it was entirely conceived and conducted by the students of UBC. In addition, the activities of the students in undertaking an intensive public-awareness campaign helped to promote a better understanding of the goals and functions of the university amongst British Columbians.

### **New Campus at Point Grey (1925)**

The government provided funds to complete the Science Building and erect the Library and Powerhouse according to the original plans with the remaining requirements to be met by "semi-permanent" buildings. Completed in 1923 and 1925 respectively, the Science Building and Library stood as impressive but isolated structures on the stark campus. The granite facing stone used in their construction was quarried on Nelson Island in Pender Harbour and carried by barge to the foot of the Point Grey cliffs. From there workmen hauled the stone to the building site using an aerial tramway and light railway system.

In the Spring of 1924, work began on six new frame and stucco buildings on the campus. Constructed at an approximate cost of \$500,000, the buildings were originally intended to last for twenty or twenty-five years "if required". They included agriculture, applied science, arts, auditorium, and administration. Despite their impermanence, the original buildings are still in use sixty-five years later.

On September 22, 1925, the University of British Columbia welcomed approximately 1,400 students to opening lectures at the new Point Grey campus. Gathered for the inaugural general assembly, the students heard president Klinck emphasize the significance of the day in the university's history: "...this morning, over this land and in many other lands the thoughts of the graduates of this university fondly turn to their Alma Mater. Mere change of location does not separate us. Henceforth, there is no 'old' or 'new', just the University of British Columbia."

The 1925 campus was significantly less grandiose than that envisaged in the original 1914 plan. Although freed from the inadequate and overcrowded facilities at Fairview, certain aspects of the partially-unfinished campus left something to be desired. Only a modest few buildings dotted the spacious campus. There were no trees or grass and roads and sidewalks were only just under construction. The students had no playing fields or gymnasium. Piles of building debris littered the campus with dust and mud everywhere. Initial conditions were such that some students light-heartedly considered a return trek to Fairview.

From these humble beginnings the University of British Columbia has developed into an outstanding institution of higher education during its seventy-five year history. The true test will come twenty five years from now during the university's centenary. Its success may then be measured by the degree to which the institution continues to be driven by the original spirit instilled and inspired by Wesbrook and the other pioneers who shaped the university during its formative period.

***Christopher Hives is the University Archivist***

# "Those Canadians From UBC"

*Seventy-five years of research and development have put UBC on the international map*

**W**hen Point Grey was chosen by the University Site Commissioner in 1910 for the campus of the proposed University of British Columbia, one of its primary attractions was the vast, undeveloped tract of land. Two hundred and fifty acres were to be set aside for the campus, but three times as much would be designated for agricultural and forestry research purposes.

British Columbia, since the turn of the century, had been involved in a natural resources and industrial boom that desperately required a university able to produce trained professionals and generate scientific and technological applications to keep pace with the growth.

The 1907 University Endowment Act set the priority of the new university to develop the mining, forestry, and agricultural resources of the province and to educate those who would aid in that development. The added emphasis on natural and health sciences was fostered by the first president, Frank Fairchild Wesbrook. A Canadian-born pathologist and bacteriologist, he was dean of the medical faculty at the University of Manitoba, and 1905 President of the American Public Health Association.

The Science Building, not surprisingly, was the first construction contract to be awarded for the new university, but World War I halted its erection at the skeleton stage. While the battle raged on in Europe, would-be UBC students studied at McGill University College at Fairview while 80 acres of agricultural experimental plots were quietly cleared away at Point Grey. Though there was no campus, well-known scientists were appointed during the war years—including T.C. Hebb in physics,

Alden F. Barss in horticulture, Paul A. Boving in agronomy, and W.L. Uglow in geology. Wesbrook died of exhaustion in the middle of the war without seeing his university built, and was replaced as president by Leonard Sylvanus Klinck, dean of agriculture.

With soldiers returning to study after the end of World War I, the student population at the Fairview campus increased to 1,200 by 1920-1921.

During this period, the first UBC research grants for science and applied science began. Agriculture received \$14,000 from a Captain Dunwaters to purchase Ayrshire cattle from Scotland; B.C. firms contributed laboratory equipment valued at \$20,000 to the faculty of applied science for mechanical and electrical engineering. A number of published papers emanating from these faculties helped the fledgling university establish its early reputation for notable research. Some of the authors included: Boving and Moe in agronomy; Hebb and Hennings in physics; Uglow and Williams in geology; Lloyd, Asmundson, and Biely in

poultry husbandry.

The general university population began a steady increase at the Point Grey campus over the next decade, but, in 1929, there were only 46 agriculture students. Yet, this department received one-quarter of total university research funds, much of it for projects involving many years of experimentation—pure science applications to agricultural problems. Agriculture carried out a large portion of campus research, but other jealous faculties, uncomprehending farmers, and a non-sympathetic provincial government found such an imbalance to be unfair.

President Klinck, former dean of agriculture, defended the size of the agriculture budget, and almost lost his appointment as a result of his stubbornness. But the realities of the Depression were far more significant, and the total university budget allocated by the provincial government was so low that the very existence of UBC was threatened. Agriculture suffered most, with almost all of its research at a standstill by 1932. Jacob Biely's fowl paralysis work was kept alive by donations from Vancouver feed companies.

Little research in other science faculties took place during the Depression, but what was done was significant. J.A. Harris studied rare earths; Dolman investigated undulant fever, botulism and staphylococcal infection; G.J. Spencer examined insect pests. George Volkoff, dean of sciences from 1972 until his retirement, began at UBC as a physics student in 1930. His work would net him a Governor General's award in 1934.

Ian McTaggart Cowan, now director of the Council of Colleges in B.C., and dean of graduate studies at UBC until 1976, was a student in the zoology department from 1927 to 1931. "When I was a student, research was being done with almost no financial support," he recalls. "There were very

*"As the research arm of the province, it will be the policy of the University of British Columbia to place its resources for research at the service of its citizens."*

*—UBC Calendar,  
1915-1916*

**by Dona Sturmanis**



good people there, but little or no graduate work. The research was done by the faculty." He remembers zoology's Charles McLean Fraser, then world authority on hydroids. He started his research with a grant from California.

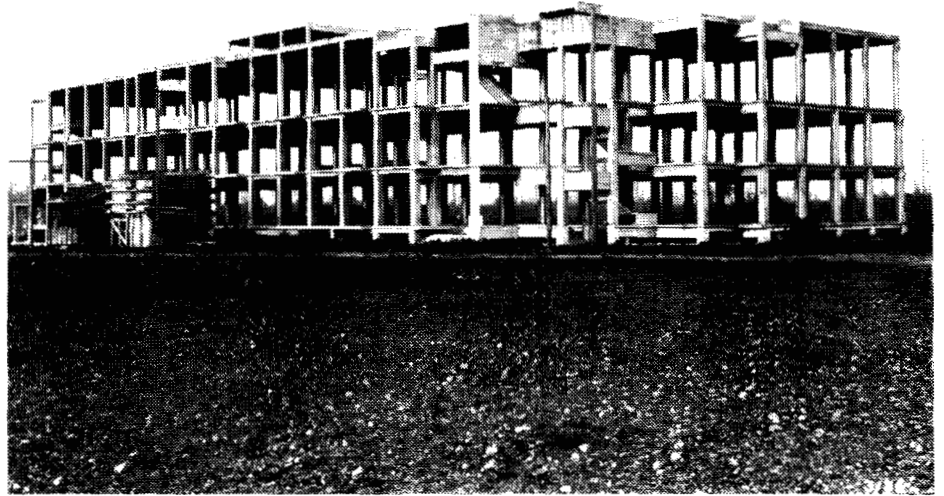
During the period between the Depression and World War II, research on campus rebuilt itself slowly. Cooperative agreements with the Dominion department of agriculture as well as other government and private sources enabled the faculty of agriculture to continue its experimental work with wheat, alfalfa, and cattle. Alexander S. Munro had left a bequest of \$80,000 in 1933 for medical research. There was, however, no faculty of medicine in which to carry out the work, so arrangements were made to use the laboratories of the department of bacteriology in conjunction with Connaught Laboratories. By 1939, a department of preventative medicine was planned, but this would be thwarted by World War II.

"Those pre-war days were the days when the university was being ground down by an inhospitable provincial government," says McTaggart-Cowan. But by 1937-1938, the total grant from the B.C. government to UBC was back up to \$400,000, including small amounts for research.

**S**eptember, 1939 marked the 25th academic year of the university. On the 10th day of the month, Canada entered the Second World War. Like all universities, UBC was suddenly called upon to accelerate its research to wage war against a technologically sophisticated enemy. Said President Klinck in his 1940-1941 Annual Report: "...the university has been prepared to put at the disposal of the Government all possible assistance by way of laboratories, equipment, and trained personnel."

In 1939, the National Research Council advised all science students to study until graduation because of the need for highly-trained personnel in the Armed Services, but by 1940, all physically fit male students were required to take compulsory military training. New, pertinent courses such as chemistry of munitions and rigid and fluid mechanics were added to the curriculum, and science programs flourished.

"It was an absolutely mad time during the war," remembers McTag-

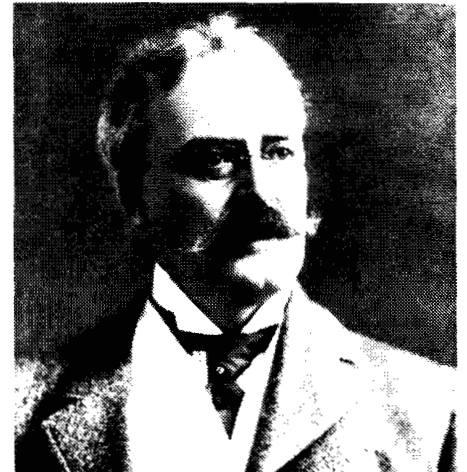


*The frame of the Science Building. For 10 years, this was the only structure on the Point Grey campus.*

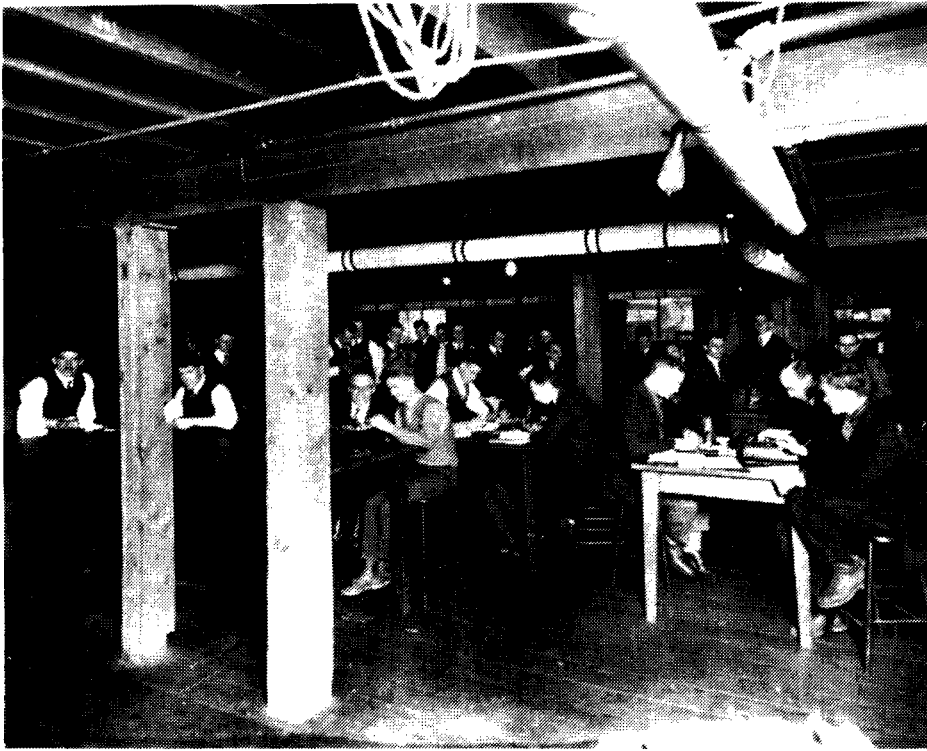
gart-Cowan, who had been appointed to his old alma mater to teach vertebrate zoology. "We had no masters degree programs prior, and suddenly we had crash programs for pre-meds. We had a special lab attached to the Chemistry Building. The lab held 32 students. I held classes in embryology and also comparative anatomy. I taught from 8 am to 10 pm every day for two years. The students did pre-med in two years."

War-specific research projects on campus were countless. Studies were conducted by all science faculties on everything from food poisoning to solvent extraction of coal and shale and, of course, war armaments. The department of geology and geography explored for strategic minerals. One of the cordites developed by the department of chemistry was put into commercial production in 1942. The faculty of applied science tested machine parts and smelted low grade ores. The department of mining and metallurgy changed its research emphasis from mining and smelting metallurgy to manufacturing metallurgy as a result of its association with the War Metals Board. Tungsten, nickel, and antimony were treated in an experimental mill extracting low-grade ores for commercial use.

The main research efforts in the faculty of agriculture were directed towards solving food production problems for Allied Forces and the general population, much of it a continuation of the experiments conducted during



*(top) UBC's first president, Frank Fairchild Wesbrook. (bottom) Leonard S. Klinck succeeded Wesbrook and served for 25 years.*



Physics lab at UBC's Fairview campus, 1920

the lean Depression years. Researchers in the department of dairying made advances in the science of cheese making and helped increase the province's cheese output. A superior breed of chicken—the Hampbar—was created in the department of poultry husbandry under E.A. Lloyd.

A significant development occurred in 1944 with the formation of the British Columbia Scientific Research Council. It brought government, industry and the university together to centralize applied research. Head of the physics department, Gordon Shrum, was appointed acting head. The non-profit B.C. Research Council, with the underlying purpose of supplying science and technology for provincial development, operated out of a small group of huts on campus.

A private company since 1988, B.C. Research Corporation still retains its ties with UBC in joint projects such as food product development and processing, ocean technology and alternative fuel research. Says president Terry Howard: "We see the B.C. Research Corporation as a major provincial focus for industry research and development in B.C., serving both private firms and government."

Overall, the Second World War served to enhance the university's value, both as an institution and as a servant of the provincial economy. The period following was marked by the onslaught of platoons of returning soldiers and serious growth on campus. Physics,

biological sciences, pharmacy, bacteriology, preventative medicine, agriculture and horticulture all received new housing, critical for urgently needed teaching and research activities. The faculties of medicine and pharmacy were created, and forestry was elevated to a faculty in 1951.

**T**he war's catalytic effect on research also resulted in the 1947-48 creation of the faculty of graduate studies. In a major 1946 drive to collect \$1 million in research support funds, the university did not achieve its goal, but it served to increase funds in progressing years from various sources.

The first functioning medical faculties were anatomy, biochemistry, physiology, physical medicine, obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics, pathology, and surgery. Research projects were sponsored by the National Research Council, commercial firms, and foundations; the Hamber Endowment Fund was particularly generous.

The emphasis on forestry evolved according to the practical needs of industry, and research work was carried out in genetics, aimed especially at the conservation and reforestation of the commercially valuable Douglas fir.

In addition to a research forest in Garibaldi Park, the new faculty received many research donations from, among others, the B.C. Logging Association and the H.R. MacMillan Exporting Company.

The Institutes of Oceanography and Fisheries were established in graduate studies in 1949 and 1953 respectively.

Physics and chemistry, crucial war contributors, expanded rapidly in the post-war period, continuing research projects at the request of federal defense and scientific agencies. Nuclear physics projects, using the Van de Graft generator installed in the Physics Building in 1948, were planned in cooperation with the National Research Council and Atomic Energy Control Board of Canada. George Volkoff, who had left UBC to study with Oppenheimer and then to work with the Energy Board, returned to the university as well. Physics, headed by Gordon Shrum, was the best equipped department at UBC, and between 1948-49, received grants totalling \$142,120.

Applied science received a new building in 1950 and the department of mechanical and electrical engineering was divided. Research, much supported by Research Board grants and the NRC, included hydraulic investigations of the Fraser River.

Agricultural research also expanded; work in alfalfa seed products and in the effects of ultra-violet radiation on animals were notable.

During the 1950s, UBC went through a major capital expansion, its budget doubling from approximately \$4.5 million to over \$9 million in a decade. Research grants accounted for 18 per cent of this increase. A campus computer centre equipped with an LWAC electronic computer was installed in 1957 for quantitative analysis of scientific problems.

Pure sciences achieved the most spectacular research results and developed during the 1950s with large grants from the NRC and the Defense Research Board. In the department of bacteriology and immunology, Dolman worked on botulism, Duff on gangrene, and Bismanis on staphylococcus. In conjunction with other departments, valuable cancer research was carried out with the support of the National Cancer Institute. A centre for virus and tissue research was also established with the cooperation of the Western Division of Connaught Laboratories.

"Research, whether of applied or pure nature, had in fact become the most important occupation of the science departments," wrote Harry T. Logan in *Tuum Est: A History of the University of British Columbia*.

Government and agency grants,



UBC Computing Centre, 1962. The new IBM model 1840 was a boon to researchers. The machine has less computing power than today's ATs.

as well as university research expenditures, increased annually, as contributions of UBC scientists received recognition in the science world. The American magazine *Science* in 1954 noted that UBC ranked fourth among North American universities in terms of distinguished scientists who had received their first degree during the 1924-1934 period.

Medicine got a research lab on viral diseases from the B.C. Polio Fund in 1952 and conducted drug addiction

research with a grant from the Federal department of mental health services. This led to the establishment of a University Committee on Research into Drug Addiction. The faculty also received a number of research grants from special disease societies and organizations. Kenneth Evelyn was appointed director of B.C. Medical Research Institute and a general medical research fund was instituted.

Gobind Khorana, 1968 winner of the Nobel Prize for Medicine, was hired in 1952 by Gordon Shrum at the B.C. Research Council. Among other achievements, he succeeded in producing Enzyme A, a major factor in metabolism, and made important DNA discoveries, including demonstrating how to join building blocks into chains of DNA. He left UBC for the United States in 1960, where he proved the existence of the triplet DNA code and synthesized a gene in a test tube. When he earned his Nobel Prize almost ten years later, he acknowledged the importance of UBC scientists and their research.

Important research in applied science during the 50s was mostly commissioned or subsidized by government or major industrial firms. Civil engineering examined hydraulics and flood control; mechanical engineering investigated thermodynamics, aeronautics, and problems with industrial structures. Mining and metallurgy received many grants, notably from Sherritt Gordon Mines Ltd. In the late 40s, head Frank A. Forward had collaborated with the company in the development of an

economical ammonia leech extraction process for minerals. In 1980, 80% of all nickel mined in the world was extracted by this method.

Electrical engineering constructed, in conjunction with the Heart Station at Vancouver General Hospital, a vector cardiograph to make three dimensional heart measurements, controlled migrating fish by electrical means, and developed a microwave lab.

The Institute of Oceans completed a three year project on oceanography of the Beaufort Sea, and the Federal Department of Fisheries Building was constructed in 1957-1958.

The '50s era of university research came to a fruitful conclusion when on February 24, 1958, B.C. Premier W.A.C. Bennett increased his government's total donation to the university to \$10 million.

U BC has become a research intensive university," says James Murray, director of University Industry Liaison. It would take a book to document the research developments at UBC since 1960. *Tuum Est* by Harry T. Logan, covers the history of the university to 1958, but very little has been written since.

After almost a decade of planning, the dentistry faculty was finally housed in the John B. McDonald Barfoot Building in 1967. While botany/geology professor Glenn Rouse discovered three teeth of the extinct mammal *titanthere* along the Fraser River, Myer Bloom of the physics department won the National Research Council Steacie Prize for the third time in four years for his 10-year research into the understanding of matter and its composition.

"The fact that UBC scientists have managed to capture Canada's top scientific awards on so many occasions in the past four or five years is as much a tribute to the heads of their department as it is to the individuals themselves," wrote then dean of science, Vladimir Okulitch in UBC Reports, in 1968. "In many cases, these future winners were attracted to UBC at a time when we were not particularly well-known elsewhere and when there was far less money available than today to support the work."

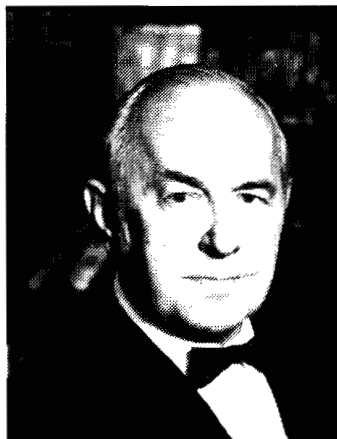
Geneticist David Suzuki of the zoology department won the following year's Steacie Memorial Fellowship, for his famous fruit fly chromosome research. In the ensuing two decades, he



David Suzuki working with a student in 1969. Suzuki's work with fruit flies broke new ground in chromosome research.



Above, UBC's Deans of Science photographed in January, 1990: (top l-r) R.C. Miller, Jr., 1985-88; D. Dolphin, Acting, 1988-89, 90-; B.C. McBride, 1990; C.V. Finnegan, 1979-85; (bottom, l-r) G. Volkoff, 1972-79; V.J. Okulitch, 1964-72.



(top l) Frank Forward, head of mining and metallurgy in the '40s, helped develop a mineral leaching process. Today, 80% of the world's nickel is extracted using this process. (r) Gobind Khorna, worked at BC Research from 1952-60. His work in DNA earned him a Nobel Prize in 1968. (bottom l) Dean of forestry, Robert Kennedy. "The amount of research in our faculty has increased dramatically over the last ten years."

would go on to become a controversial author and media personality, popularizing science and spreading his message about environmental hazards.

By the early '70s, it was clear that the university's potential as a major centre of research was just beginning. "Twenty years ago, UBC was still something of a backwater, specifically in medical, pharmaceutical, and dental research. Now, we are enormously successful," says John McNeill, dean of the school of pharmaceutical sciences, in 1990.

As the '70s progressed, UBC research achievements came quickly:

- 1973: Physiology's John Brown isolates two duodenal polypeptide hormones, useful in the diagnosis and treatment of some gastrointestinal ailments.

- 1974: Paris Constantinides of pathology proves a new theory about the mechanism behind arteriosclerosis.

- 1976: Chemistry professor Laurance D. Hall wins the Corday-Morgan Medal and Prize for his work in the development of nuclear magnetic resonance techniques pertaining to molecular structure and conformation.

- 1977: Biochemistry's Michael Smith is awarded the Jacob Biely Faculty Research Prize for discovering a simple way to build short DNA chains.

- 1979: Anthony G. Phillips of psychol-

ogy receives the Steacie Memorial Fellowship for his studies on learning and memory as well as effects of drugs on the brain.

Researchers got a boost in 1977 when the UBC library system introduced its computer terminal network, tapping several valuable data bases in science, technology, medical and life sciences. The university was also given permission to build a Coal Research Centre, a promise that would make UBC one of the country's foremost coal teaching and research institutions.

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) took over the National Research Council research-granting function in 1978, with the mandate of supporting projects in "national problem areas." That year's total of \$526,800 was awarded to 18 UBC faculty members in the fields of energy, environmental toxicology, and oceanography. In 1979, NSERC awarded more than \$700,000 to UBC scientists for 16 research projects in environmental toxicology, oceanography, and food production. The largest grant went to a team of cancer researchers and food scientists studying carcinogens in food.

The federal government, up to this point, had been somewhat conservative in its research endowments to universities, but lobbying on the part of

scientists over the past decade finally persuaded them of its importance. Canadian scientists began to reap the benefits of the turnaround when NSERC awarded a record \$9,011,823 to 453 faculty members in basic and applied science for 1980-1981, an increase of 17 per cent over the previous year and a whopping 45 per cent increase over the total awarded in 1978-1979.

The Medical Research Council made grants totalling \$4,123,737 to 90 UBC health scientists in the faculties of medicine, dentistry and pharmaceutical sciences in 1980-81. The total represented an increase of 11% over the year before, and 16 per cent over the amount awarded in 1978-1979.

It sounds impressive, yet Richard Spratley, director of research services says: "Ten years ago, there was little research in the department of medicine." Dating from its late birth and initially humble funds, the department of medicine now has the largest research funds of any scientific department at UBC.

Much of this was kicked off with the 1976-1980 construction of the Health Sciences Centre Hospital. The hospital is unique in that each of its three units incorporates a teaching and research function in addition to its primary function of patient care. "Some of the top medical experts in their fields

*"It is likely that more research has been undertaken at UBC in the last five years than occurred in the previous 70."*

are moving to our province because of the expansion of the UBC faculty of medicine," said UBC president Douglas Kenny to UBC Reports in 1980.

In 1981, UBC was designated a Centre of Excellence by the federal government for microelectronics research, to receive up to \$1 million over the next five years from the Federal ministry of industry, trade and commerce. Senator Ray Perrault said the UBC microelectronics lab was acknowledged to be "one of the finest among universities in Canada."

Campus researchers also got a boost that year when the campus computing capacity increased by 65 per cent with the installation of a new Amdahl 4070 V8, after trading in its old model and paying an additional \$1.3 million. About 60 per cent of its computer time was devoted to faculty research and development.

About ¼ of NSERC research grants for projects "critical to the national interest" were awarded to UBC, indicating the university's growing national importance and reputation.

Between 1982 and 1983, PET, the well-known positron emission tomograph, was built at TRIUMF under the direction of Brian Pate, professor in the faculty of pharmaceutical sciences. It produces a series of colour images of a fully conscious patient's brain chemistry. Only one of four in Canada, it is superior to the one at McGill, McMaster, and Queens because of its accuracy and speed.

The 80s continued to produce major breakthroughs:

1982: Several landmarks in medicine: a test to diagnose a common form

of mental retardation; coaxing blood cells that are precursors to leukemia to grow in a test tube for the first time; successfully planting an artificial inner ear in a deaf patient.

· 1984: Christian Fibiger of the neurological sciences division develops the first animal model of Alzheimer's disease; Michael Smith of the biochemistry department wins a gold medal from the B.C. Science Council for his discovery of a way to isolate and identify specific genes. His technique becomes a standard procedure in genetic engineering throughout the world.

· 1985: J. Keith Brimacombe, director of the Centre for Mineral Process Engineering and a Stelco Professor in the department of metallurgical engineering, receives a gold medal from the Science Council of British Columbia for his 20 year research into ore extraction and conversion into useful products. Retired UBC medicine faculty member Robert Noble, research scientist at the Cancer Control Agency of B.C., receives a gold medal from the Science Council for his cancer research. He is internationally acclaimed for his role in the discovery of Vinblastine, a chemical used in the disease's treatment.

It is likely that more research has been undertaken at UBC in the last five years than occurred in the previous seventy. "Research projects are now vast collaborative efforts," says Barry McBride, dean of sciences. "It used to be that people would just do the research and go home. Now huge projects are in the works. He points to outstanding projects in his faculty—the hemato-profusion therapy work of chemistry's David Dolphin and microbiology's Julia Levy; continuing work on superconductivity in the physics department; and the lithoprobe—developed by geophysics' Ron Clowes—which looks at the earth's structure in a band across Canada, using "the most sophisticated geophysical instruments." Herbert Gush in physics has also set up a space-search instrument which measures the cosmic background to understand better the Big Bang Theory. "Some of the best minds in the world in cosmology are here at UBC studying the origins of the universe," he says.

James F. Richards, dean of agricultural science, describes the current research activities in his faculty:

"With its large graduate student body, there are many grants for research. Substantial grants are awarded per faculty member, and major grants come from the federal and provincial ministries as well as from the food industry. Our faculty has been here since the beginning of the university.

Our research has been based on development of production and efficiency, and adopting new methods to improve these things." He points out Bill Powrie's work in the development of modified atmosphere packaging, a method of packing fresh produce in gases to delay deterioration, expand shelf life and to lower shipping costs.

"The amount and intensity of research in our faculty has increased dramatically over the last ten years," says Robert Kennedy, retiring dean of forestry.

Most of forestry's research funding comes from external sources, such as government granting bodies, especially NSREC, forestry's biggest single source of grant funding. The faculty has been responsible for leading-edge research into reforestation techniques, genetically improved "super-trees," engineering applications to forests, computer applications to the industry such as remote satellite sensing to monitor the spread of insects, disease and fire, and robotics to increase safety and harvesting efficiency. "We have won prestigious international awards for research and development, but in reality, we come back to the general premise of an increased understanding of the earth's biosphere."

Michael Smith of the campus' recently created biotechnology laboratory feels "very good about research here. I am director of the bio tech lab which is a new initiative. We have brought in first-rate members who are doing leading research in genetics and biology and building new and exciting interactions between faculties. I feel good about that."

UBC is definitely fulfilling its original mandate to "be the research arm of the province ... to place its resources for research at the service of its citizens." In 75 years, the university has grown beyond provincial and national borders with its scientific research contributions and capability. Says John McNeill, dean of the school of pharmaceutical sciences: "UBC is now a world-class research university. I recently returned from an international meeting in France where UBC's research was regarded as the best. We are 'those Canadians from UBC.' We have a good reputation."

*Tuum est.*

***Dona Sturmanis is a freelance writer living in Vancouver.***

# The Triumph of TRIUMF

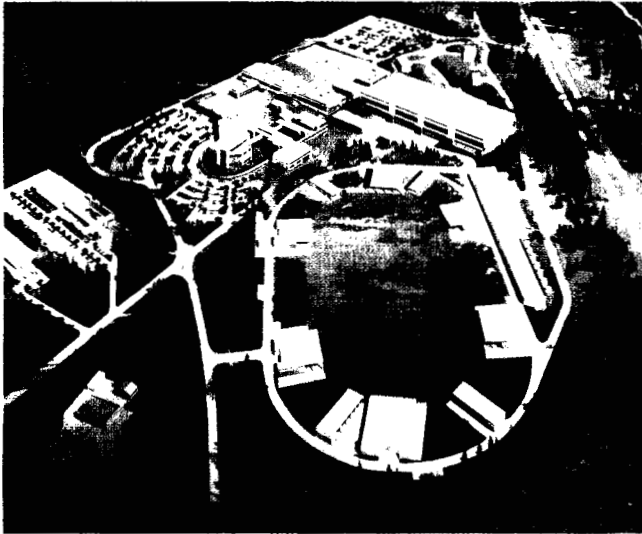
UBC's TRIUMF (Tri-University Meson Facility) is home to one of the world's best-known atom smashers. The six-leaved magnetic pinwheel, called a cyclotron, spins charged hydrogen atoms around inside a 55-foot diameter concrete-encased cylindrical tank until they achieve speeds 75 per cent the speed of light. At this speed, the minuscule atomic particles are focused into beams which scientists hurl into various targets. Like a wine glass flung into the fireplace, the result is a shower of subatomic particles.

TRIUMF is a result of the efforts of the late physics professor, John Warren. Inspired by the cyclotron design of University of Berkeley physicist Reg Richardson, Warren convinced UBC, Simon Fraser University, and the University of Victoria to establish TRIUMF, and lobbied the federal government for funding.

At a cost of \$36 million, construction took five years, and the first full strength beam of protons was emitted on December 15, 1974.

Since then, TRIUMF has emerged as one of an elite group of two dozen research centres around the world where scientists can study the tiniest building blocks of the universe.

TRIUMF has a solid track record of turning its theoretical discoveries into commercial success stories—saving lives, reducing pollution, and improving our quality of life. A pion beam—light, short-lived particles produced in huge numbers at TRIUMF—is now being used to treat glioblastoma, an especially deadly type of brain cancer. Although still regarded as experimental, pion therapy has



*Artist's rendering of proposed KAON factory. Over \$300 million of the necessary \$693 million has been committed to the project, and will take five years to complete.*

been used on over 200 patients, and most have been granted a new lease on life. New isotopes manufactured at TRIUMF are proving invaluable in the diagnosis and treatment of life-threatening medical conditions.

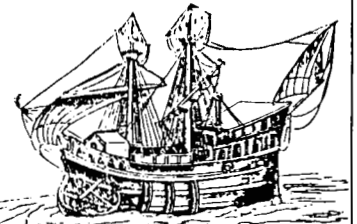
Another offshoot of research at TRIUMF is the Positron Emission Tomograph, or PET scanner, which uses low-dose radioactive isotopes to study the brain. One of three in Canada, and the most sensitive, the PET scanner is instrumental in diagnosing Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Huntington's disease and Dystonia.

Technologies developed at TRIUMF to help perform experiments are being modified for a multitude of day-to-day uses. TRIUMF's high-speed gallium arsenide microchips, which handle vast amounts of data at phenomenally fast rates, are favoured to replace silicon chips in computerized detectors, advanced radar systems, and satellite communications.

On the environmental front, TRIUMF's elaborate computerized control systems could find their way into factories and pulp mills. As well, researchers have recently discovered that by reducing the temperature to a smidgen above absolute zero (-273 degrees C), they can freeze certain pollutants out of smokestack emissions.

TRIUMF is now bidding for \$693 million to build a KAON factory. By spinning particles through an underground, one-kilometre long oval accelerator track, physicists would be able to produce kaons—tiny mesons of particular interest—as well as antiprotons, other hadrons and neutrinos. If constructed, the KAON factory would be the highest intensity particle beam accelerator at this energy level in the world.

—DS



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If you have any questions, call NAL toll-free 1-800-668-0195 (in Toronto, 229-3000) for assistance or a free brochure. You can also contact your NAL representative or call Bruce McRae, CLU, the UBC Alumni Insurance Consultant, at (604) 734-2732.



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# Research in the Marketplace

"Curiosity-driven research leads to commercialization," says James Murray, director of University Industry Liaison, in the department of industry liaison. His job is to identify UBC research, development and experiments that may be of economic benefit. New research is 50 per cent owned by the researcher, 16.66 per cent by the home faculty, and the remainder by the university.

Two high-profile companies were formed involving UBC faculty members and university-generated research. Rudy Haering was awarded a gold medal by the Science Council of BC for his work leading to the invention of a rechargeable lithium and molybdenum disulphide battery. That same year he helped to create Moli Energy, a publicly-listed company which established a plant in BC to manufacture the new rechargeable batteries. Unfortunately, business difficulties superseded innovation brilliance and the company collapsed.

Quadra Logic Technologies has fared somewhat better. This biopharmaceutical company trades on the Vancouver and Toronto Stock Exchanges and is engaged in the development and commercialization of light-activated drugs. Among the principals are Anthony Phillips and Julia Levy. In a recent interview, Levy said, "When the work you're doing can actually reach the bedside, and you

"When the work you're doing can actually ... benefit humanity ... then you want the idea transformed into a product for the marketplace."  
—Julia Levy, Quadra Logic

can benefit humanity with it, then you want the idea transformed into a product for the marketplace. There is nowhere in Canada where you can take it from the university into the real world. We started Quadra Logic in 1980 to do just that."

In 1985, UBC and IBM Canada signed a three-year, \$2 million cooperative agreement to explore the use of computers in Canada's legal system. The grant was the first cooperative agreement made by IBM with a Canadian university.

With sponsorship by the National Research and Engineering Council, Gerry Neufeld and Paul Gilmore developed a software program which allows computers of different makes to communicate with each other. UBC licensed this technology. It has been sold worldwide, with royalties returning to UBC. Clients include Olivetti, British Telecom, and AT&T. "This software helps solve communications problems worldwide," says Murray.

Richard Spratley, director of research services, points out the "brightest lamp in the world," developed at UBC in conjunction with Vortek Co., which is being used in the microelectronics industry to heat microchips, and Lorne Whitehead's "light pipe" which distributes light evenly along long distances, and was used on the monorail at Expo '86.

—DS

## Some important UBC research milestones ...

**Patrick McGeer**, professor of neurological sciences, department of psychiatry, former provincial minister of education and, later, of science and technology.

"Harold Copp's discovery of calcitonin, a hormone made by the parathyroid. Also Paris Conspantinides' work on the genesis of heart attacks."

**Michael Smith**, director, biotechnology laboratory.

"It is very hard to talk on the personal side of milestones, of lab research. We have three levels of activity—one in tree genetics, another in programs in neurobiology and pathogens in viral diseases, and another in building a bridge between microbiology and engineering for fermentation research."

**John McNeill**, dean of the school of pharmaceutical sciences.

"In pharmaceutical sciences, particularly strong areas are basic research in diseases such as diabetes, cystic fibrosis, and epilepsy. We also do a lot of work identifying drugs and toxic substances."

**Richard Spratley**, director of research services

"The invitro fertilization techniques developed in medicine, the spinal cord injury research in the medical department at Shaughnessy, the detection and cure of sexually transmitted diseases going on at St. Paul's ... including clinical trials of new AIDs drugs. And then there is the research in back pain in astronauts by Peter Wing and the paraplegic medicine work of George Szasz."

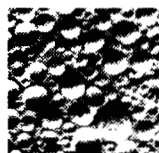
**Robert Kennedy**, retiring dean of forestry:

"Our research in the department of forestry is generally to improve an overall understanding of forestry ecosystems. It provides basic information to help us manage forests for a variety of uses. This work involves forest nutrition, management, and wildlife."



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*Congratulations to the University of British Columbia on its 75th Anniversary! British Columbia, Canada and the rest of the world will continue to reap the benefits of UBC's leadership in academics and in its research.*



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*Congratulates the University of British Columbia on its 75th Anniversary. We join the community in saluting UBC's leadership in academics and research throughout its history and into the future.*

# Homecoming Events

*Sept. 27*

## UNIVERSITY

### Great Trek Relived

11:00 am/Cecil Green Park  
Classes of 1916 - 1927 will meet for lunch, then retrace by bus the Great Trek of 1922 between Fairview and UBC.

### Student Homecoming Parade

12:30/Main Mall, UBC Campus  
Prizes awarded to the best float.

### September Ceremony

2:30/Old Auditorium

Welcome new and returning students to UBC. Special awards, including Honorary Degrees to Mme. Justice Beverly McLachlin & Retired President of the University of Victoria, Dr. Howard Petch. Limited seating capacity. Reception to follow. SUB plaza.

### 1990 Gala Great Trekker Dinner & Dance

6:30 for 7:30/Hotel Vancouver  
In honour of Pierre Berton, 1990 recipient of the Great Trekker Award. \$75/person.

## FACULTY Pharmacy

Professional Practice Night  
7:30 - 10:00/ Faculty Club Ballroom

Hosted by the Pharmacy Division. The primary objective is to inform students of professional avenues open to them. Pharmacists representing diverse areas of practice are invited to act as resource persons, providing information on community, hospital, industrial, governmental and other career pathways. Alumni are welcome as observers and to meet present and future colleagues. If you wish to attend, as a resource person or observer, please contact Marion Pearson at 228-6344.

*Sept. 28*

## FACULTY

### Social Work

#### Reception

6:30 - 11:00/Graham House  
Join fellow alumni and meet guest speaker, Dr. Carole Christensen, who will assume the Directorship of the school in July, 1991.

*Homecoming Information  
Thursday - Sunday  
The Alumni Association  
2nd Floor, Cecil Green Park  
8:30 am - 5:00  
or  
Information Table  
at SUB  
10:00 am - 4:00*

*Sept. 29*

## UNIVERSITY

### Campus Walking Tours

10:00 am, 1:00, 3:00/Cecil Green Park  
Will cover campus highlights. Approximately 1½ hours.

### TRIUMF Tours

10 am - 12 noon/TRIUMF  
Highlights include some experimental areas, the control room and the Pion Cancer Therapy Facility. Anyone with a heart pacemaker should not take the tour. Children under 14 are discouraged. Free.

### AMS Gallery

10:00 am - 4:00/SUB  
Paintings by Barbara Larviere.

### Blue and Gold Classic Football Game

1:00 - 5:00/Thunderbird Stadium  
AMS "Tailgate" BBQ  
Music! Refreshments! Prizes!  
Come for lunch and watch the game - it's open to all!  
2:00 Kickoff/Thunderbird Stadium.  
UBC Thunderbirds vs Manitoba Bisons. Half-time entertainment! Refreshments! Birthday cake! Mascots! Prizes!

### Museum of Anthropology Tours

12 noon and 1:30  
Free for alumni; leaving from the front foyer.

### Fine Arts Gallery

1:00 - 5:00/Basement of the Main Library  
An exhibition centre for contemporary Canadian Art.

### Rededication of the Cairn

7:00/Original Cairn on Main Mall

*Sept. 29*

## FACULTY

### Arts

McGowan Cup Style Debate.  
2:00 - 4:30/B104, Buchanan Building.  
Resolve: "The 21st Century does not need the Liberal Arts." Moderator: Dean Patricia Marchak and a panel of four. Reception to follow.

### Audiology & Speech Sciences

Informal Reception  
1:00 - 4:00/James Mather Bldg.  
See the displays, visit with students and staff. The first 40 alumni to arrive will receive a School shirt celebrating UBC's 75th. More information, contact Verna Pyplacz at 534-3410 (evenings).

### Community & Regional Planning

75th Anniversary BBQ  
2:00 - 6:00/Foyer, North Entrance Steps and Courtyard of the Lasserre Bldg.  
For alumni, faculty and students to celebrate the kick-off of the annual "Mentor Programme." Further details will be included in the upcoming newsletter, or call 228-5326.

### Counselling Psychology

Reception  
1:00 - 2:30/CNPS Dept., 5780 Toronto Rd.  
Information regarding counselling psychology and alumni division activities. Light refreshments. Dinner /Dance  
6:00/Arbutus Club  
To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Counselling Psychology program. For further information call 228-5259.

*Faculty Club Open House  
September 29, 1:00 - 6:00  
Complimentary Coffee & Tea  
Lounge Open  
Light Lunch at Snack Bar  
Available Until 3:00  
Entertainment  
Membership Info*



Sept. 29

**Engineering**

Alumni tours  
3:00 - 5:00/Engineering Bldg.  
Faculty members will lead tours of the CEMÉ for faculty, alumni, students. Presentation by Dean Meisen on "UBC Engineering Through the 1990s."  
Reception  
5:00 - 7:00/Faculty Lounge  
Join friends Old Red New Red. For info, call Bob Gill, 663-3369 or Don Piercy, 294-1471.

**Geography**

We will be highlighting the graduating classes of 1965 and 1980.  
Geography Alumni Alliance AGM  
11:00 am/Faculty Club  
Report of the alumni and presentation of the Geography Alumnus of the Year Award. Discussion.  
Luncheon  
12:00 noon/Faculty Club. Music Room.  
Guest speaker to be announced.  
"Discover UBC Then & Now"  
Walking Tour  
1:30 - 2:30/from Faculty Club if at luncheon, from Geography Bldg. if not.  
Student guides will take alumni around the campus on a special tour.  
Social Get-together  
2:30 - 3:30/Geography Building  
Refreshments. Ticket information will be available in the forthcoming newsletter, or call 228-2663.

**Law**

Computer Demonstration  
1:00 - 4:30/Law School Reception Area  
Expert systems demonstrated. Refreshments will be served.

*For List of Reunions  
to be held  
During Homecoming 1990  
See Page 5*

Sept. 29

**Music**

"A Calamity Quiz" and Concert  
2:30/Recital Hall  
Theatre/History 100 revisited.  
3:30/Music Building Lobby  
Interpretive Presentation and Display of the Creative and Performing Arts Centre by Andrew Brown, University Planner. Prizes, refreshments and fun! For further information: Dolya Konoval, 228-5574 or Donna Pollard, 942-3998.

**Nursing**

Free Tour of the Museum of Anthropology  
2:30/Foyer of the Museum  
Wine & Cheese Reception  
4:00/Conservatory at Cecil Green Park.  
Please R.S.V.P. to 228-3313.

**Physical Education**

Golf Tournament  
10:00 am Tee-off/McCleery Golf Course.  
\$17/person. Those who don't wish to participate are invited to join the PE cheering section at the Homecoming Football game.  
Fourth Annual Reunion Banquet  
6:30/Cecil Green Park  
To celebrate UBC's 75th Anniversary and honour the Class of '40. \$35/person. Further details and ticket information are included in the current newsletter.

**Rehabilitation Medicine**

Reception  
7:00/SRM Faculty Lounge, 3rd Floor UBC Acute Care Hospital  
The Rehab. Medicine Alumni Division and the School of Rehabilitation Medicine will be co-sponsoring this reception for all alumni, present and past faculty members and undergraduate students. Call up a fellow classmate and join us. R.S.V.P. before September 21 to Nancy Cho at 732-5180 or at the School, Judith Forsyth, 228-7392.

Sept. 29

**Sciences**

Information Marquee  
1:00 - 3:30/University Blvd. and East Mall  
Information on activities of each of the science departments, including the location of the events listed below. Will include info on programs which promote women in science. T-shirts with Women in Science logo.  
Reception  
3:00 - 4:00/University Blvd. and East Mall  
Hosted by the Dean of Science in conjunction with several science departments.

**Computer Science**

Tour  
2:00 - 3:30  
Demonstrations of research projects, new teaching laboratories, electronic hyperbrochure  
Reception  
3:30 - 4:30

**Geological Sciences**

Tour  
1:00 - 2:30  
Highlighting recent changes in the facility, such as the new X-ray lab which can do an X-ray ID in less than 10 minutes.  
Reception  
2:00 - 4:00/Geology Museum  
Refreshments with welcoming remarks and introduction of faculty at 3:00.

12:00 noon - 4:00/Museum and Collector shops open.

**Mathematics**

Reception  
2:00 - 5:00/Math Annex, R. 1115  
Displays and demonstrations, informal tours and discussion.

**Microbiology**

Tour and Reception  
1:30/Foyer of Wesbrook Building

**Oceanography**

Presentation and Cocktail Party  
3:00, Biological Sc., 1465  
Recent developments, instrumentation, programs and staff.  
Short lecture and tour of department. Alumni and friends from industry, government and public in attendance.

**Physics**

Tour and Reception to follow.  
2:30/Labs in Hennings, Hebb and Chemistry/Physics.

Sept. 30

**FACULTY****Agricultural Sciences**

Reception and Tour  
1:00 - 4:00/UBC Botanical Gardens  
Further details will be included in the fall newsletter, or call Judy Newton at 228-4372.

**UNIVERSITY****Arts '20 Relay**

8:30 am/Opening Ceremony. Main Mall (Sedgewick Plaza)  
9:00 am/Bus leaves for relay points.  
9:30 am/VGH Race begins.  
10:00 am - 12:00 noon/Main Mall (Sedgewick Plaza)/Pancake Breakfast & live entertainment.  
Award Ceremony (10:45). Birthday cake (11:00).

**Anniversary Tea**

3:00 - 5:00/Cecil Green Park  
Limited seating available. Forward \$15 by Sept. 19 to the Alumni Association.

Oct. 1

**Meet the Brass**

12:30 - 2:30/SUB Party Room  
Come hobnob with community and University Big Wigs!

Oct. 2

**UNIVERSITY****Just Desserts**

7:30/Cecil Green Park  
Student societies recognize the achievements of someone who has been of great help to them during the last school year. By invitation only.

**FACULTY****Education**

Guest Lecture  
8:00/Woodward Instructional Resources Centre, #2  
Special lecturer Dr. John Goodlad, "Teachers for Schools in a Democratic Society": for alumni, members of the teaching profession, and other interested persons in both the educational community and society generally.

# The Creative and Performing Arts

## Seventy-five Years of the Best in Theatre, Music, Art and Literature

by Audrey Grescoe

The construction of a creative arts building will crown UBC's history of dedication to the arts, a history which began with the opening of the university. UBC was ahead of its time in introducing credit courses in the creative and performing arts, and in establishing departments in music, theatre, fine arts and creative writing. Teachers and administrators, many of them artists themselves, introduced these courses with the conviction that creating art entailed thinking, and that students could learn by doing as well as by studying what others had done. What follows is a brief history of the elements of UBC's dedication to the arts, and a look at the future.

### Theatre

Frederic Wood was the first of many professor patrons of the arts at UBC. In November 1915, six weeks into the university's first term, he and a group of 40 students formed the Players' Club, the first all-student drama society in Canada.

The elite Club grew more exclusive than a fraternity, with hundreds of students auditioning for its 60 places. In 1920, it made its first spring tour of the province, giving people in the interior of the province their only contact with a university they supported with their taxes. The Club's success continued for 40 years, gradually maturing from a repertoire of light comedy to more serious works such as Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler*.

In the middle of the 1930s, a subtle shift from performance in drama and music to formal instruction in both began. The process, repeated in many North American universities, was to slip the teaching of theatre and music in by the back door, a process that has been referred to as the bootlegging of the arts. Given that metaphor, the bootlegger at UBC was the department of extension, formed in 1936, and its chief agent was Dorothy Somerset.

In 1937, Somerset taught a weekend drama school in Invermere, B.C., the first short course ever offered by the department of extension. In 1938, the extension department offered its first Summer School of Theatre, designed to meet the needs of amateur groups wanting to enter the Dominion Drama Festival and of teachers who had to direct school productions. Well attended from the beginning, it would continue (with a three-year interruption during the war) until 1964 when its activities were merged into the theatre department's credit courses.

With Somerset's encouragement, the English department began to offer credit courses in the theory and history of theatre. In 1952, the old Totem Coffee Bar was converted into the first Frederic Wood Theatre. It was, at the time, the only legitimate theatrical outlet in the city.

A few years later, when Dorothy Somerset first proposed that a separate theatre department be established, her opposition said that the practical study of theatre was vocational. Her supporters pointed out that courses in engineering were equally practical, and Somerset argued that the playwrights whose works were studied in the English department would not have written had there

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A contemporary Canadian art exhibition of 47 watercolours featuring Rhododendron species. The exhibition was developed by The Botanical Garden of the University of British Columbia.

Displayed at the UBC Fine Arts Gallery  
May 6th - August 14th, 1981

A programme supported by the National Museums of Canada

*"We've never seen theatre as a performing art as separate from a liberal arts education. I see theatre as a vital university activity, making extraordinary demands on the people who participate in it."*

—Errol Durbach, Head of Theatre

been no stage on which to present their plays. The decision to create a department came in 1958.

Today, graduates of our theatre department are known in theatre circles nation-wide as the UBC Mafia. "The UBC influence is pervasive in English-Canadian theatre," according to graduate Jeremy Long, who headed the Canada Council's English theatre section for four years.

In the department, students and faculty continue to balance the need for conservatory-type training with the need for academic inquiry. From the time classes begin in September until they end in March, students perform in five full-length plays presented to the public on the main stage of the second Frederic Wood Theatre (which replaced its predecessor in 1963). In the Dorothy Somerset Studio in the back of the building, there are two full-length productions and a dozen one-act plays. As a result, rehearsals are always in progress somewhere in the building. Sets are hammered together on the stage and costumes are fitted and sewn in the wardrobe department. All this activity creates a decidedly theatrical ambience.

Likewise, students in the film division are engaged in the nuts and bolts of producing broadcast quality educational and promotional films for charitable organizations. It is a tenet of the department that training in acting, directing, design, technical stage management and the production of films be combined with the scholarly study and analysis of theatre and film.

When department head Dr. Errol Durbach speaks of the actors UBC produces, he touches on the theatre department's whole approach to teaching. Dr. Durbach says, "Whenever we have guest directors, I ask what sort of an actor they want. They inevitably say a sophisticated and intelligent student, who can read a play and understand it, who knows the basic techniques of theatrical analysis, somebody who is intellectually bright and sprightly. They would choose the university-trained student in preference to the conservatory-trained."

## Music

The longest surviving student organization on campus is the Musical Society, or MUSSOC, which was formed after the Player's Club, but continues to this day. The organizers, eight orchestral musicians and a few singers, met with Professor E.H. Russell of the mathematics department in 1916.

By 1930, MUSSOC had a chorus of 60 and an orchestra of 20, and was able to produce a complete Gilbert and Sullivan operetta for its annual spring concert. In 1934, the club acquired an important assistant dramatic director: Walter Gage, later the university's fifth president.

As in the theatre, interest in musical scholarship grew in the 1930s. In 1936, MUSSOC invited Allard de Ridder, conductor of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, to give a series of lectures on "Orchestration and Form." In 1935, the university acquired a Carnegie Corporation record set, which it used as the basis of an extension department series of 300 radio broadcasts. And in 1937, an evening class in music appreciation was first offered.

The faculty committee that met nine years later to discuss the establishment of a Chair of Music agreed that the university needed popular non-credit lectures, authoritative lectures on the history and theory of music for credit, and public performances of music that would benefit the whole university community. President Norman MacKenzie hired acclaimed Toronto violinist Harry Adaskin. In 1947 he became head of the first of the fine and performing arts department on the campus.

Having no time to hire faculty, Adaskin decided in his first year to create a course in music appreciation. His wife, pianist Frances Marr, played music while Harry lectured, a teaching arrangement which they continued for 27 years.

By 1958, UBC initiated a Bachelor of Music program, and in 1967 the music building opened near the Freddy Wood Theatre and the Lasserre Building, a cluster dedicated in 1965 as the Norman MacKenzie Centre for Fine Arts.

The Music Building is always filled with music. Every student takes part, for credit, in at least one of the 14 ensembles which give concerts throughout the school year, on campus and often further afield. Some of these groups focus on specialized repertoires, such as the Collegium Musicum, which recreates vocal

## Some Notable Theatrical Disasters

- Opening night of **Henry IV** in the Old Auditorium during the '40s. Smoke meant to heighten a scene of battle rolled out into the audience, causing a mass fit of coughing.
- Opening night of **The Alchemist** in the Old Auditorium. A balloon broken to create a moderate theatrical explosion made such a blast that an obliterating cloud of dust from the stage flies descended on the actors.
- **Look Back in Anger** in the old Freddy Wood Theatre. After the curtain rose before a full house, stage manager Norman Young went backstage to drink a cup of tea. Sensing an unusual stillness in the theatre he came out to find the three actors frozen in their opening stances. The first speaker had forgotten his opening line.

*"In our school, I think the performers have respect for what the scholars do and the scholars respect what we do. I think they understand that we use our brains when we play."*

—Robert Silverman, Professor of Music

and instrumental works as they were performed in the medieval, Renaissance and Baroque periods, or the Contemporary Players, which concentrates on student and faulty compositions and works written in this century.

The school of music has a heavier requirement of academic courses than most U.S. schools and one of the highest in Canada. As well as studying theory and history, UBC students have to compose, arrange and orchestrate music, and learn to play some piano.

"I fear society is beginning to think of music education as the training of prodigies and virtuosos," says department head, Dr. William Benjamin. "Music requires training in abstract thinking. It requires fine discrimination, learning how to be precise mentally and physically. It requires physical strength and emotional openness and an ability to co-operate and interact with others. It's a question of broadening [students] and making sure they are not able to do just one thing."

## Writing

Columnist Allan Fotheringham once called the *Ubyyssey* "the best journalism school in the country," a claim borne out by the long list of its illustrious former staff. Budding student journalists have followed this route to success since the first issue of the paper hit the campus, but in 1990, the university is making plans for an official school of journalism. New non-fiction and business writing courses offered by the creative writing department are the seeds of this program.

This sort of change is just part of the continuing evolution of the creative writing department. In 1946, acclaimed poet Earle Birney agreed to return to his alma mater as an English professor on one condition, that "I can have one course I can believe in, the first stone in a little shelter for the creative student naked in academia." He got his course, and UBC became the first Canadian university to give credit for creative writing. The program won its independence from the English department in 1965.

However romantic may be the idea of the solitary writer in a garret, creative writing programs demonstrate the advantage and the exhilaration of collaborative

## Moments with Notable Visitors

- Igor Stravinsky visited in the 1950s. He ate dinner under Frances and Harry Adaskin's dining room table in order to escape the crowd of assembled well-wishers.
- Dylan Thomas visited in 1950. Fellow poet Earle Birney and composer Jean Coulthard steered him around the campus to keep him sober for his evening reading. When Thomas went onstage in the Old Auditorium, he had replaced the water in his pitcher with gin.



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association. In workshops and tutorials, students' work is both text and content, offered to a group of peers for comment and critique. Rather than placing emphasis on academic prerequisites, the department opens its courses to undergrads from any faculty if they submit a portfolio of recent original work.

Since its formation, department graduates have gone on to win awards for drama, fiction and poetry, and to edit literary publications across Canada. Its students have also been associated with numerous publishing efforts on campus. These include *Tish*, which began in the early '60s as a reaction to another campus publication, *prism*. Ironically, *prism* had itself been created in reaction to scholarly journals of criticism. Coming under the wing of the creative writing program in 1964, the renamed *prism international* pioneered translations of works by writers from Europe, South America, Africa and the Orient. In 1978, it became the first student-edited journal in Canada. The first issue of *Canadian Fiction Magazine*, today one of the country's most prestigious magazines for writers of fiction, was cranked out on the department's Gestetner in 1971.

The ultimate goal of playwrights and screenwriters is production. With this in mind, former department head Dr. Douglas Bankson co-founded the New Play Centre in 1970. It continues today as the most important play-development centre in Canada. For graduate students, the department now offers two joint programs with the theatre department, one in Writing and Film and the other in Writing and Theatre.

"Our aim," says George McWhirter, current department head, "is to bring talents and people of talent together in a working situation, where they are producing original material. We want to be like the real world, where there are collaborations, deadlines and a necessity to work in more than one form to make a living."

## Visual Arts

In 1946, the Extension department developed its Summer School of the Theatre into a Summer School of the Arts, which it launched with courses in painting, taught by B.C. (Bert) Binning. Binning's role was pivotal in the formation of a fine arts department. In 1951, he travelled to the United States and Europe to examine fine arts programs in a variety of universities. His 1952 report recommended a department that would combine art historical scholarship and creative studio work under one administration, a formula which was not originally adopted, but which is now in use.

"The studio artists and the art historians here talk to one another," says Dr. James Caswell, department head. "The dialogue is real."

And the interests of the historians are all-encompassing. "We are probably the only department in Canada that can be said to be strong on all fronts, including Asian art and native art. The only glaring omission is that we have no one in the Northwest Coast area at present." These scholars are engaged in a revolution that has overtaken the world of art history in recent years. The so-called new art historians study a work of art in its economic, social and political context, rather than judging it solely on its aesthetic merits and in the light of an aesthetic tradition.

Student studio artists in the department don't benefit only from interaction with the art historians they work alongside. They're encouraged to use the full resources of the university to solve the problems underlying their art. These may be technical ones, requiring the expertise of an engineer or a chemist, or they may be more theoretical.

Jeff Wall, one of the department's newest faculty artists, says, "One of the reasons people don't understand why the arts should be at a university is they don't understand that they are making culture themselves. They see that they are doing science or history, but don't see that they are producing representations. What their representations are is the business of artists."

*"Applied scientists have no trouble understanding us. We create things. We're always looking for something new. There is no difference between writing and science in figuring out things: one does it in words, the other in figures."*

*George McWhirter, Head of Creative Writing*



*"The university has closed the gap dividing scholarship and professional training. It now bears the responsibility of the complete education of the artist, educated not only as a creative individual free to express himself in society, but also to understand the nature of his society and his new position within it."*

*B.C. Binning, First Head of Fine Arts*

**continued page 30**

# The Creative Arts Building

The university is about to realize a long-nurtured dream of a comprehensive creative and performing arts centre. In a way that could not have been anticipated by early planners, this centre will play a part in the university's changing position in the art world. As much of the continent turns its face westward to the Far East, UBC stands on the front line, occupying a position of prominence in a developing multicultural artistic and scholarly union with China, Japan, Korea, India and Asian nations.

In 1995, UBC will open a Creative Arts Building entirely devoted to studio work in art, music, theatre and film. Funding has come from the Chan Foundation of Canada, founded by Vancouver businessmen Tom and Caleb Chan, who have recently come to Canada from Hong Kong. The centre will include a new concert hall which will at last give the university a performance space with a proper orchestra pit, and give the city a medium-sized space where opera and dance productions can be staged. The new art gallery will meet international museum standards for the security, handling, conservation and storing of artifacts, allowing the exhibition of travelling shows that demand climate-controlled facilities. It will also provide a long-awaited home for the 900-piece University Art Collection.

The planning of the arts centre, along with the growth of funding for new initiatives in each of the arts departments, has laid the foundation for the next great step forward in UBC's teaching of the creative and performing arts. On the strength of new partnerships with government, business and the community, the university can now move to fulfil the vision and to keep faith with those who set the stage so many years ago.

—From *The President's Report on the Creative and Performing Arts*, published in 1990 by the UBC Community Relations Department. Excerpted by Morna McLeod

*When UBC's \$31 million creative and performing arts centre opens in 1995, a student painter, through proximity and daily contact, will learn what a violinist must do to master a Beethoven concerto, while a geography student may be drawn into the art gallery, there to perceive new continents of the imagination.*

## Musical Miscellany

- Nearly 200 concerts are performed each year in the school of music's Recital Hall.
- Longest school of music concert: two days and one night during the '89 Pianothon. Jane Coop, Robert Rogers, Rena Sharon and Robert Silverman joined students to play non-stop at the Arts Club Theatre. The event inspired the donation of two grand pianos and raised money for another.

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## Bob Harlow, BA '48

### Writer

During his 25 years as an instructor in the creative writing department, Robert Harlow had one constant piece of advice for his students: write for three hours every day. Following his own advice, he has produced seven novels and is now at work on the eighth.

Harlow grew up in a young and booming Prince George. In 1941, on his 18th birthday, he joined the air force and spent the war in the cockpit of a fighter plane.

Joining up was an easy decision, but knowing what to do after the war was more difficult. Harlow enrolled at UBC in 1945, one among the mass of returning soldiers. "I thought I'd become a lawyer, and then I thought I'd become a philosopher, then an economist. Then I took Earle's course in '47-'48 and that was the only course I cared about. I really wanted to be a writer, suddenly."

Earle, of course, was poet Earle Birney, who had taught UBC's first creative writing class in 1946.

"Earle changed my life. One day I was floundering around and the next I knew what I was going to do. Earle was a fine teacher, a damned good poet. He's absolutely, definitely seminal in this country."

Harlow graduated in 1948 with a B.A. in English. On the strength of his new devotion and Birney's recommendation, he was invited to join the prestigious Iowa Writers' Workshop at the University of Iowa, the first Canadian to be so honoured.

He went back to Prince George after earning his M.F.A. in Iowa, but soon returned to Vancouver to work with the CBC. He became a public affairs producer for CBC Radio, and a year later was made Director of Radio, B.C. Region, a post which he held for twelve years. During this time he wrote little fiction, starting but abandoning two novels, then finally writing and publishing *Royal Murdoch*.

By 1964, "I was so bored it was just awful." A call from Earle Birney rescued him with an offer to teach writing at UBC where Birney "commandeered an office and said, 'We're going to be a program.'" A year later their renegade program became a full department and Birney, its founder, was ready to leave UBC. Bob Harlow became the first head

of the first full-fledged creative writing department in the world.

During the years he spent at UBC he helped hundreds of students "to teach themselves to write." He also wrote six of his seven novels. "Without the students I never would have made it as an author. I had to keep explaining myself to them."

During his first year as a sessional instructor, Harlow wrote *A Gift of Echoes* set, like *Royal Murdoch*, in a fictionalized town in northern B.C.

After a period of reading European authors (Flaubert, Rilke, Grass), the tone of his work changed. "When I did the third book, it turned out to be *Scann*." While *Scann* is also a tale of life in Northern B.C., "it's written from a more existential perspective, a less romantic one. A lot of people thought I had found my *metier*, but that way of looking at things didn't stay with me."

A series of personal crises plagued the years after *Scann*, and when Harlow began to write again in 1977—on New Year's Day—he did so only for his own amusement. He wrote *Making Arrangements*, the story of three low-lives and their farcical attempts to win big at the race track. It put its author back on his own track. He published again in 1983, 1985 and 1988.

In the next two books, "I wanted to do back-to-back pieces about a guy who'd never heard of the feminist movement and then a woman who'd never heard of it. Nobody appreciated them much."

Harlow received a lot of criticism for creating such an unrepentant womanizer as the title character of *Paul Nolan*. He also received letters from men saying, "How did you know?" In *Felice*, he faced the challenge of writing from a woman's point of view and this time was criticized for stepping out of his own territory.

All these books drew on elements of Harlow's personal experience—his early years in northern towns, a penchant for horse racing, a trip to Europe—yet none were really autobiographical. It wasn't until *The Saxophone Winter* that, "I decided to go back to the little town—not the ones I'd invented but the one I grew up in."

He was finally ready to create Christopher Waterton, a charming, mixed-up adolescent who, through one



eventful winter, begins to understand something of adulthood. Underneath the story vibrates the stirrings of war in Europe. In *Flying Blind*, now nearing completion, the war is on, and Christopher, as Bob Harlow once did, leaves home to join the air force.

CBC Television has bought the rights to *The Saxophone Winter* and on the proceeds Bob Harlow has moved to Mayne Island, a move as unexpected as most of the events in his life. Of writing he says, "It's not one of those things where you ever know what you're going to be doing. My life has just been a contingency."

But one thing has remained constant: he still writes for three hours every day.

—Morna McLeod

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## Michael Conway Baker, Composer BMus '66



Talking to Michael Conway Baker you realize quite quickly that he feels strongly about things. Three of those things are his music, teaching and UBC.

He began playing and writing at a young age. He was born in Florida, the son of vaudeville performer Phil Baker. He travelled around the U.S. with his family most of his childhood, and attended 13 schools in 12 years. With the family record collection and a piano, he taught himself the basics of music theory.

He moved to Vancouver in 1958, when he was 20 years old. He first planned to stay with his grandmother, who had offered him a room and a piano, but when she took ill the plans evaporated. "I was really desperate to get going on my piano studies. Then I got a letter from a friend of my grandmother, a painter, who invited me to live with her and her husband while I studied. So I came." With their help, he began his first formal piano studies.

After a year of intensive study, he passed the external exams of the London College of Music, then enrolled at UBC to study composition. He taught grade seven full time for 9 years after graduating. "But I was writing music all the time. In the staff room, at lunch time, even at meetings. Once, someone asked me if I was paying attention, and I said, 'It's O.K., I can orchestrate and listen at the same time.' And I could."

He wrote music for dance (notably, *Washington Square* for the National Ballet of Canada), voice and various instrumental combinations. Then, in 1982, he was approached to write a score for *Nails*, a National Film Board production which was subsequently nominated for an Oscar, won him his first Genie, and which has become a classic. "It has no dialogue, just the sound of machinery and the music. It's extremely powerful." Since then, he has gone on to win two more Genies (for *The Grey Fox* and *John and the Missus*), a Gemini (for *A Planet for the Taking*), a Golden Sheaf Award (for *The Emerging North*, music for the NW Territories Pavilion at Expo 86) and more nominations. He has written music for ABC TV movies of the week, *Sea of Slaughter* for the CBC, 9 feature movies and a host of documentaries, shorts and themes for

video presentations and commercials. The theme for "The Vicki Gabereau Show" on CBC radio is a Michael Conway Baker composition. He also writes songs with his wife, Penny, who, as well as being a lyricist, is his business manager. He and Penny wrote the music for the launch of UBC's **World of Opportunity** campaign.

In all, he has written music for over 40 film and dance projects and over 90 concert works. He will begin his next project, a score for the feature film, *Kootenai Brown* when he gets a fine cut of the film in September.

It was about the time of *Nails* that he decided to quit teaching and write music full time. "I think teaching is very important, and I love it," he says. "I especially love teaching younger kids. They're so open to ideas, and open to the magic of the music." But Baker's career makes full time teaching impossible. "You have to start work on some of these projects immediately. If a producer calls from Toronto and wants to talk about a score, he wants to talk about it now, so you have to fly out there. The time commitments of teaching are just too rigid."

But he can't stop teaching entirely. He teaches part time in UBC's department of music, teaching, as he says, everything from music appreciation to orchestration. He also teaches a course he created, composition for film.

Michael Conway Baker's music (he uses his middle name, "Conway," to distinguish himself from another Michael Baker, who composes dance music) is best described as romantic. "One critic writing about *Washington Square* said I have one foot in the 20th Century and one foot in the 19th. I suppose that's true."

But his more traditional sense of melody, harmony and form has garnered him his share of problems. UBC's school of music in the '50s was grounded in the avant garde. The music of Anton Weber, Schoenberg and Bartok dominated the school, and a young man who bathed in the light of Brahms was anathema to the prevailing ethos. "I tried the twelve tone approach in some of my music and, for me, it just didn't work. I think you have to believe in the music you write." He believed in his music enough to resist the pressures and develop his own vision.

"Once," he recalls, "at the beginning of my time at UBC, I sat down with Jean Coulthard, and she began to rewrite a piece of my music. I remember nearly jumping off the piano bench, saying 'Don't touch my notes!' But she was very good to me, and after that she would say, 'Well, my dear, I'll just make a suggestion.' She was really quite wonderful."

Though much of his time at UBC was spent "bucking the avant garde establishment," he looks back on his school years with great fondness. "There was a tremendous *esprit de corps* among the students in the department, a tremendous sense of encouragement. It was like it is now in the real world. The critics might kill me (although I've received some very fine notices), but the public and the film industry says, 'Don't stop. Keep writing.' It's very encouraging."

Michael Conway Baker keeps writing. His own personal, distinctive voice will continue to produce music that is both accessible and original. —CP

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# The UBC Thunderbirds

## *A Legacy of Character and Characters*

Of the some 350 students who will attend UBC this fall and wear the familiar blue and gold colours of the Thunderbirds, most will be aware of the standard set by their predecessors. For those on teams still struggling to make their mark on CIAU sanctioned sport, the only pressure may be to make the team and to satisfy their own individual performance standards. For those entering programs that have won national or conference championships, there will be the added pressure of teammates determined to repeat a winning season. However, very few of these athletes, who generally range in age from 18 to 22, will completely understand the legacy which began when their grandparents were toddlers.

Seventy-five years of sport at UBC has produced a colourful history, one that is marked by both character and characters: character such as that produced in the hearts of the women's basketball team which won the gold medal by defeating France at the Women's International Games in Prague in 1930; and characters such as the near legendary Frank Gnupe, who coached football and baseball from 1955 to 1973 and won the hearts of students, faculty and media alike through an exceptional wit and humanitarian attitude. UBC's record in sport is an enviable one. At the end of the 1989-90 season, Thunderbird teams had claimed a total of 27 CIAU National Championships in seven different sports: swimming, volleyball, basketball, football, field hockey, gymnastics and soccer. That total ranks second behind the University of Toronto in the number of national championships won since the inception of the CIAU. It would be wrong, however, to ignore the prior accomplishments of UBC teams and athletes.

Varsity sport in Vancouver began in 1891 when McGill University College of British Columbia, then operating on UBC's original Fairview site, fielded an English rugby team. A senior team from the college competed in the Vancouver Rugby Union league of 1906 and was awarded the Miller Cup for having the best playing record. The UBC Rugby Union was founded in 1915, and competed for the McKechnie Cup that same year. The Cup, which was first awarded in 1895, was named after Dr. Robert E. McKechnie, who served as UBC Chancellor from 1918 to 1944. The McKechnie Cup is the oldest active competitive trophy in Canada, and Varsity won its first of 21 McKechnie Cup victories in 1922. Varsity has tied for the McKechnie six times.

UBC's oldest women's sport is field hockey. By the time UBC opened its doors in 1915, the women's field hockey team was preparing for its fifth season. The

team enjoyed phenomenal success right up to and including the CIAU years, and won four CIAU Championships, eight Canada West Conference Championships and provided a significant talent pool for Canada's national and Olympic programs.

While men's field hockey remains a club sport, it also has a lengthy history, thanks to Dr. Harry Warren, who was recently named to the B.C. Sport Hall Of Fame. A Rhodes scholar and a UBC professor emeritus, Warren was UBC's top sprinter in the '20s and a star rugby player, but he is still best known as a builder of field hockey on Point Grey.

The first year of ice hockey at UBC was also 1915, and the goaltender on that 1915-16 team was Sherwood Lett, UBC chancellor from 1951-1957 and Past President of the Alumni Association. There have been three phases of Thunderbird hockey. During the club phase (1915-1960), hockey became a major campus sport. A women's team was formed in 1915, and lasted into the mid '20s. In the second phase (1960-81), the team entered the Western Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Union (now known as the Canada West University Athletic Association—CWUAA), and was coached by David Bauer. The 1964 Olympic hockey team stayed on campus during this period, the Winter Sports Centre was built, links were established with hockey in Asia and the program was solidified under coach Bob Hindmarch and later through men's athletic director Rick Noonan. In the period 1982 to the present, T-Bird Athletics has become an independent department within UBC, and full time coaches have been hired to direct the hockey program.

Canadian Rugby began in 1924 as a club sport. With the support of Gordon Shrum, it became a major sport in 1927 in the Big Four League under the coaching of Gordon Burke. UBC won its first Western Canadian Collegiate Championship in 1929 (the same year that the forward pass was im-

plemented) in a 13-2 victory over the previously undefeated U of Saskatchewan. The game was played at Athletic Park, the old baseball stadium at 6th and Hemlock, where Nat Bailey got his start in business as a peanut vendor.

On October 2 of the following year, UBC's Varsity Stadium, which stood on the site of the Student Union Building, opened and became the home of both rugby and football. Almost thirty years to the day later, Thunderbird Stadium was opened at a cost of 1.2 million dollars. The football team became the centrepiece of the athletic department in the years that followed, winning five Western Intercollegiate Football League titles (1976, '78, '82, '86 and '87) and two Vanier Cups (1982, 1986) in four appearances under head coach



by Don Wells



Frank Smith.

Prior to UBC's success in football, basketball propelled the university into national and international prominence, beginning with the gold medal won by the 1929-30 women's team at the Women's International Games.

The '30s was a memorable decade for UBC basketball. The men's team won the university's first national championship in 1930-31, repeating in 1937-38 and 1940-41. The top scorer in the 1931 victory over the St. Catherines Grads was freshman Robert Osborne. Osborne would later serve as coach of both the men's and women's teams, 1948 men's Olympic team coach, director of men's athletics and director of the school of physical education and recreation. Osborne's notable charges included former provincial cabinet minister Pat McGeer and on-court standouts Richie Nichol, Sandy Robertson, Reid Mitchell, Ruth Wilson and Faye Burnham.

The glory days of men's basketball continued through the early '40s and culminated in the stellar team of 1945-46. Varsity had a 34-5 record that year and won the Pacific Northwest Intercollegiate title. Osborne's dream team also split a pair of games with the Washington Huskies, won two out of four games against the University of Oregon, and was the first western team to beat the fabulous Harlem Globetrotters (42-38) in a game allegedly devoid of the Trotters trademark clowning.

Success for both men's and women's basketball returned in the early '70s with the women recording three consecutive CIAU championship beginning in 1971-72 and the men clinching the national title in 1969-70 and 1971-72. Like hockey, UBC's basketball program now uses full time coaches to insure consistency in an increasingly competitive coast to coast athletic union. Under Coach Bruce Enns, who came to UBC from the University of Winnipeg in 1985, the men's team ended the seven year domination of CIAU basketball by the Victoria Vikings in 1986-87 and went on to the national final where they were narrowly defeated by the University of Brandon. The Thunderbird women's team has again become a contender under the direction of Misty Thomas, a national team member and the only female University of Nevada Las Vegas alumnus to have a number retired.

While basketball was largely responsible for introducing UBC athletes to the realm of international competition, the greatest international triumph has been met by the school's rowing crews. UBC's program has long been associated with the Vancouver Rowing Club and the dual program reached the pinnacle of its success in the mid fifties to early sixties. In 1954, racing on the Vedder Canal, the UBC/VRC eight man crew won the British Empire and Commonwealth Games gold medal. Then at the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne, Australia, the UBC/VRC eight man crew won the silver medal while the four man crew captured the gold. Olympic success did not end there as the eight man crew returned to Olympic competition in 1960 in Rome and captured another silver medal.

UBC rowers again attained international recognition in the eighties as Pat Turner and Paul Steele were part of Canada's eight man crew which rowed to Olympic gold in Los Angeles in 1984. Tricia Smith, who rowed at UBC in the late seventies and early eighties, is one of Canada's most medaled athletes along with former world champion high jumpers Debbie Brill and Thelma Wright. As a member of the national team, Smith received one silver and

**Page 36.** top: 1930 basketball team won the gold medal at the Women's International Games in Prague. Middle: T-Bird cross-kicks during Open House match with UVic in 1949. Bottom: Gordon Shrum, President Douglas Kenny and T-Bird quarterback Dan Smith at Shrum Bowl, 1980.

**Page 37.** top: W.A.C. Bennett presents award to UBC's rowing team, which won gold and silver at the '56 Olympics. Middle: News report of women's 1930 basketball victory.



six bronze World Championship medals, one silver Olympic medal, one gold Commonwealth medal and was a member of four Canadian Olympic teams.

Although Brill got her start at UBC, the glory days of UBC track and field in the seventies belonged more than anyone else to Thelma (nee Flynn) Wright. Wright was one of twelve UBC athletes to compete in the 1972 Munich Olympics, along with an awesome contingent of high jumpers coached by Lionel Pugh and led by John Hawkins and John Beers. Dubbed the "Mighty Atom," Wright entered international competition in 1969 at 17. She won her first medal, a bronze, the following year at the Commonwealth games in the 1500 metre event. She finished out of the medals in Munich in 1972, but repeated her bronze medal performance at the Commonwealth Games in 1974. Her greatest international triumph, however, came under the pressure of home-country scrutiny at the 1976 Olympics in Montreal when she ran a time of 4:10:20 in the 1500 metres and won a silver medal.

Soccer has been played at the varsity level since the late '20s, but it wasn't until recently that both the men's and women's teams made their marks. Between 1978 and 1989, the men's team (under the late Joe Johnson, and later under Dick Mosher) won six Canada West Conference championships and five CIAU championships. It is fitting that the final CIAU title of the decade came at Thunderbird Stadium. The 'Birds beat St. Mary's Huskies 1-0 in the championship final. It was only the second time a Thunderbird team won a CIAU championship at home.

The 'Birds women's soccer team dominated the sport in

**U.B.C. TEAM CHAMPIONS OF WORLD**

**Girls Basketball Aggregation Wins Title at Prague**

*By Canadian Press*

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia, July 1.—The Canadian girls' basketball team from Vancouver, B. C., won the world's championship by defeating the France's team in the final game today 18 to 14.

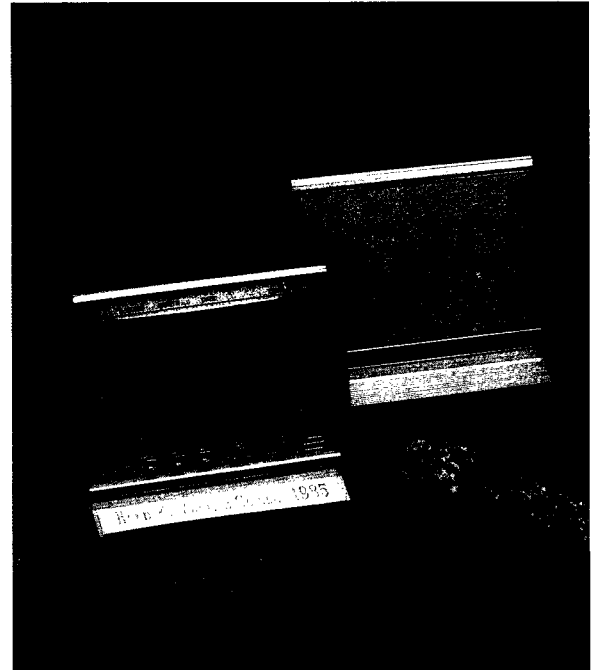
The score at half time was 14 to 4.

Vancouver girls who gained the title of world basketball champions are Claire Meaton, captain; Thelma Baskin, Marion Shilly, Lois Thompson, Bettie Tingay, Cleg Carlin, Jean Whyte, Rene Harris and Mary Campbell.

The manager and coach of the varsity team is Jack Darberis.

When this group of stars left here they were rated second only to the famous Edmonton Grads, whom they expect to meet on their return trip.

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# Time Warp at War Memorial Gym

**O**n a mid-May afternoon in the lobby of War Memorial Gym, Pat LaRoue is shaking the hand of Gavin Dirom for the first time.

LaRoue, 21, is a 4th year phys ed student and starting linebacker for the Thunderbird football team. Dirom, 81, was also a Thunderbird football player.

obviously enjoying an encounter with a UBC gridiron great of yesteryear.

Even though both the game and the equipment have evolved, the athletes themselves are remarkably unchanged. Both LaRoue and Dirom have had their share of injuries (Dirom tore shoulder ligaments, LaRoue has broken a leg and both have the usual knee problems). LaRoue, as Dirom did, works

on Point Grey and across the country.

Gavin Dirom graduated in engineering in 1932 and played Canadian rugby as it was then called, from 1927 to 1931 in the Big Four League. The league consisted of UBC's "Blue and Gold," New Westminster, Vancouver and Victoria. The winner of the Big Four Championship played a prairie team for the Hardy Cup, symbolic of Western Canadian university football supremacy. A national championship was still years away. For LaRoue, however, university sport has much more to offer.

In the modern era, Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union (CIAU) teams from 45 member institutions in six conferences across the country compete for national titles in nine different sports. Some of the games are broadcast live throughout Canada. Although the Canadian system is not as rich as the American one, there are corporate sponsors willing to pour millions annually into university sport. Football's Vanier Cup, which drew 32,877 to Toronto's Sky Dome for its 25th anniversary contest last year, remains the centrepiece of the CIAU national championships. The Sports Network (TSN) has, however, purchased the exclusive broadcast rights to all CIAU sports for one million dollars over five years. In addition to football, national TV coverage of university hockey, volleyball and basketball has made these sports even more attractive to advertisers.

And while some have argued against private sector involvement in university sport, the additional funds hold the promise of better athletic programs, improvement in our international competitiveness and a significant contribution to professional sport.

As the brief chat between Gavin Dirom and Pat LaRoue ends, they exchange the mutual hope to meet again in the fall at Thunderbird Stadium. Another similarity between the athlete of past and present becomes apparent—the sheer love of the game.

—Don Wells



*Tommy Berto throws a tackle at Gavin Dirom during a Varsity game, 1928.*

"You must have played in the days when you folded your helmet and put it in your back pocket," jokes LaRoue. Dirom looks puzzled for a moment but then replies, "No, those were aviators."

The truth is that helmets of any description were optional in the days when Dirom was a 210 lb backfield hero with the "Blue and Gold." Unlike fellow backfielder Gordon (Cokie) Shields, Dirom chose to wear the leather helmet. And even though it was a touch sturdier than the one Lindberg wore, it didn't offer anything close to the protection provided by LaRoue's 1990 version. In any case, LaRoue is just being friendly,

construction jobs in the summer to stay strong and to finance schooling. Dirom also played rugby and basketball and was a top sprinter, winning the 1926 provincial junior title in the 100 yard dash. LaRoue, a graduate of St. Thomas More, played lacrosse, hockey, soccer and won a provincial championship in the 100m breast stroke. Presumably, both have also struggled at times to maintain standards in the classroom as well as on the field.

The encounter between these two individuals shows clearly the basic similarity of athletes past and present. It also underscores the tremendous progress of university sport both

# Pierre Berton

## Media Star in Training at UBC

**P**ierre Berton is a man whose achievements have occurred not singly but in multiples—a man to whom lists accrue. Lists of books published: 36 as of the fall, including best-selling histories, memoirs, social commentary, and children's stories. Lists of awards, honours and distinctions: 19 including three Governor General awards, the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour, and Companion of the Order of Canada. Lists of honorary degrees: 12 to date, including an LL.D. in 1985 from his Alma Mater, UBC. Lists of media scaled and conquered: he has been a newspaper reporter, columnist and editor; he has been managing editor of Canada's largest magazine; he has written not only books but documentary scripts for film and television programs and continues to appear as a panellist on the eternal "Front Page Challenge." Lists of causes defended and protests launched: he has spoken out for the Civil Liberties Association against clandestine police activities; he has supported the Writers' Union of Canada in condemning proposed pornography legislation; he has been director of Heritage Canada, promoting the preservation of historical buildings and sites; he has advocated (and lost a column over) sexual honesty for teenagers; he has asserted (long before it was fashionable) women's right to control their own bodies; and he has loudly denounced funding cuts to the CBC. There are more accomplishments and advocacies, of course, and more lists. Even lists of children: he has eight of them, seven with names beginning with "P" ("P" as in "prodigious").

Now another honour is about to be

by Robin Laurence

bestowed upon him, another prize flung onto the glistening heap. On September 29, Pierre Berton, Arts '41, will be presented with The Great Trekker Award for 1990, in recognition of his professional eminence, his contributions to his community, and his ongoing support of his Alma Mater.

"The Great Trekker" is a curious name, evocative of wilderness adven-

tures or pioneer expeditions, even a bit suggestive of Berton's Yukon childhood. It refers, in actuality, to an urban protest march that profoundly affected the history of the university. In 1922, a group of UBC students, fed up with deplorable classroom conditions at their provisional Fairview campus, and furious with the provincial government's years of stalling on its promise to construct a university on the site that had been designated for it in 1907, paraded, by truck and car and then by foot, from downtown Vancouver to the Endowment Lands at Point Grey. There they erected a granite cairn to mark the event that later became known as The Great Trek, and that stirred government commitment to the university's development. Monies were found to resume construction of campus buildings and The Great Trek became a legend of student solidarity and striving in support of their own university.

**I**n September 1940, a young *Ubyssey* editor and columnist named Pierre Berton wrote an article titled, "Annual Cairn Ceremony To Be Held Tuesday." Berton described the cairn as a "symbol of the Alma Mater spirit which smoulders beneath the academic exterior of the undergraduate body" and "a shrine before which every undergraduate must bow his head before he can all himself a true son of his Alma Mater." It is fun to read prophetic innuendo into this slightly purple (or is it tongue-in-cheek?) prose. In 1940, though, Berton could hardly have anticipated the creation of The Great Trekker Award (established in 1950, the award is a miniature of the original cairn), much less his being named to it. His single-minded aspiration at the time was to a career in journalism—his entire university agenda were directed to that end.

Berton had transferred to UBC from Victoria College in 1939 with the express purpose of working on *The Ubyssey*. "I had discovered from reading *The Ubyssey* in Victoria that guys who worked for it generally got a job," he says. "I had helped start the paper (at Victoria College) called *The Microscope*, which was a little bulletin board paper,



Zoran Milich

### Honorary Degrees

- 1973 - LLD (P.E.I.)
- 1974 - D. LITT (York) Toronto
- 1978 - LLD (Dalhousie) New Brunswick
- 1981 - LLD (Brock) Niagara Fall, Ontario
- 1981 - D. LITT (Windsor) Ontario
- 1982 - Doctor of A.U. (Athabaska, Alta.)
- 1983 - LLD (University of Victoria, BC)
- 1983 - D. LITT (McMaster) Ontario
- 1984 - LLD (Royal Military College) Kingston, Ontario
- 1984 - D.F.A. (University of Alaska)
- 1985 - LLD (University of British Columbia)
- 1988 - LLD (University of Waterloo)

# Things the U. B. C. Can't Do Without



Pierre Berton's cartoons were a regular feature of *The Ubyssy*. This one, done in 1939, shows that the important things never change.

and I decided to become a journalist and figured the best way was to work on *The Ubyssy* and learn the business and get a job. Which is exactly what happened." He shifted his major from chemistry to English and history, but says he had no inkling then that he would become famous for writing volumes of Canadian history. "I didn't think I was going to write books—I was just going to be a journalist." In fact, Berton nearly failed History 15, whose lectures he consistently skipped. (He squeaked through by borrowing classmates' notes and flipping coins over the more troubling examination questions.) Berton was hardly an exemplary student: as he tells it, the classes he didn't cut, he slept through. Most of his waking hours were devoted to the furthering of his journalistic ambitions: working as "Tuesday editor" on *The Ubyssy*, writing and broadcasting programs for the university's Radio Society, co-editing *The Point Grey News-Gazette*, acting as campus correspondent for the *News-Herald* (one of the three Vancouver dailies), and hanging out with fellow "Pubsters" (members of the Publications Board of the Alma Mater Society).

"I had a wonderful time," Berton says. "The happiest years of my life. I didn't have to work—it was great!" From a man who was so busy he scarcely had time to sleep, and who later wrote three dozen books in fewer than three dozen years, this suggested aversion to work has to be seen as ironic. "I didn't do very much—just wandered around the campus with girls, drank a lot of beer, had a lot of fun, and learned my trade."

"He was hardworking and aggressive," says his old friend, Virginia Beirnes, who worked on *The Ubyssy* with him. "And very bouncy." Beirnes, who dated Berton for a while (a picture of "Ginny and Pierre" attending the Arts-Aggie Ball appears in the 1941 *Totem*), recalls that the tall, gangly, red-haired young Berton was "quite shy." But, she adds, "on the other hand, he was quite forceful." In a 1981 interview with Sylvia Fraser, Berton described the process of overcoming early insecurities: "You shake yourself out of your inferiority complex by finding out what you can do well." At UBC, Berton's drive and ambition were overcoming his self-doubts. "He had a strong sense of himself," Beirnes says.

Another fellow Pubster, longtime

Vancouver Sun journalist Jim MacFarlane, recalls that Berton "was very enterprising . . . He was a real go-getter as a reporter." MacFarlane recommended Berton to succeed him as campus correspondent for the *News-Herald*. "I thought he was the most up-and-coming reporter on *The Ubyssy*, so I felt he would be able to handle the job." Not only did Berton handle it, he landed a summer position at the *Herald* and went to work there after he graduated. MacFarlane's wife, Joyce Cooper, a former C.U.P. journalist who also befriended Berton during his *Ubyssy* days, says "what marked Pierre was his tremendous energy and enthusiasm." And, she adds, "devilment." She describes Berton as bringing "a breath of the Yukon to the campus . . . His energy and enthusiasm were inclined to carry him away sometimes—but in the right direction."

One direction in which he was carried—and for which he is still notorious—was controversy. Iconoclasm. In his 1940-41 *Ubyssy* column, "On the Outside," Berton took swipes at provincial political parties for not addressing the needs and concerns of young voters. "A government composed

or ruled by old men can bring nothing but reaction and stagnation," he wrote in October 1941. He also tilted at UBC students for being indifferent to the war effort, at the hypocrisies of fraternity members and the inadequacies of the Student Council and—perversely—at the A.M.S. for proposing to pay students who served in official capacities. "Student executive work, or student journalistic work is as much of an education as any lecture course given on the campus," Berton wrote. "Students should pay for the privilege of working for the university—not get paid for it."

Berton sees his impulse to take on established institutions and middle-class conventions as a hereditary trait. "My grandfather was a rebel," he says, "so it's my genes, I think." This grandfather, Phillips Thompson, described by Berton as "the most famous journalist in Ontario," was a man whose unpopular, socialist views caused him to lose jobs and live in poverty. Berton's own left-leaning politics, however, do not seem to have inhibited his successes in the slightest: his books have sold hundreds of thousands of copies over the years and he enjoys a degree of comfort rare among writers.

Berton's irreverence found other outlets: he contributed deft little car-

toons to *The Ubyyssey*, satirizing campus life and spirit, and he wrote the delightfully rude song, "The Illegitimate Children of the Publications Board," which, half a century later, his friends still allude to with amused chagrin. In a more serious spirit of change, he revised the format of *The Ubyyssey*, updating and streamlining it.

Working on *The Ubyyssey* in the 1940s was equivalent to a contemporary course in journalism—a self-taught course. "We learned the business ourselves," Berton says, but being largely unsupervised was a boon, an incitement to create. "It was a lively paper and they left us alone. It was a student paper, it didn't answer to the president or the Student Council or anybody else. We ran it ourselves." Some of Berton's fellow "graduates" from the *Ubyyssey* "program" were Eric Nicol, Lister Sinclair, and Patrick Keatly, all of whom made distinguished careers for themselves in journalism and broadcasting. Another was Janet Walker, who was "Friday editor" of *The Ubyyssey*, secretary of the Radio Society, and editor of the student handbook, *The Tillicum*. After graduating, Walker went to work as a reporter for *The Province*, giving up her job to marry Berton in March 1946. At the time, Berton joked that he married Walker to cut down on his competition. Not that he had much to worry about—few people were able to match the output of this journalistic *wunderkind*.

At 21, Berton had become the youngest city editor of any Canadian daily. His precocious career lost four years when he was drafted into the army, but he still managed to start two army newspapers and rise to the rank of captain/instructor during that "hiatus." On returning to Vancouver, Berton wrote for the *Vancouver Sun* and freelanced for magazines and radio. In 1947, he moved to Toronto, to become the youngest assistant editor at *Macleans*' magazine, quickly becoming its managing editor. In Toronto, he also began to broadcast radio and TV programs, and to write the books that would so often stimulate and answer the public's need for accessible history.

Throughout the years, Berton has maintained his ties with UBC, returning to the campus to enlighten, amuse and hector the student body, deliver a Homecoming address, speak at the 25th anniversary reunion of the class of '41, lecture for the Vancouver Institute, pick up an Alumni Award of Distinction and that belated honorary degree, and emcee the gala dinner that launched the World of Opportunity

## Awards

- 1956 - Governor-General's Award for Creative Non-Fiction  
**The Mysterious North**
- 1958 - Governor-General's Award for Creative Non-Fiction  
**Klondike**
- 1959 - J.B. McAree Award for Columnist of the Year
- 1959 - Canadian Film Award - **City of Gold**
- 1960 - Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour
- 1961 - National Newspaper Awards, Feature Writing and Staff Corresponding
- 1972 - Association of Canadian Television and Radio Artists "Nellie" for Integrity and Outspokenness in Broadcasting
- 1972 - Governor-General's Award for Creative Non-Fiction  
**The Last Spike**
- 1975 - Officer of the Order of Canada
- 1975 - Toronto's Civic Award of Merit
- 1978 - Association of Canadian Television and Radio Artists "Nellie" for Best Public Affairs Broadcaster in Radio
- 1981 - Canadian Authors' Association Literary Award for Non-Fiction
- 1981 - The Alumni Award of Distinction, UBC
- 1982 - Canadian Bookseller's Award
- 1982 - Ontario History and Social Science Teacher's Association Perspective Award
- 1982 - World Tourism Day Medal
- 1982 - Beefeater Club Prize for Literature
- 1986 - Companion of the Order of Canada
- 1989 - Coles Book Award
- 1990 - The UBC Great Trekker Award

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its students, faculty, alumni and  
the broader community.*

**continued page 41**



Campaign. Chronicle staff, of course, have noted his comings and goings over the years, tracking his enterprises and outrages. Berton is, after all, one of UBC's most famous alumni, someone to be claimed and reclaimed each time he adds a book, a program, a prize or a cause to his long-listed life.

**Robin Laurence is a Vancouver arts writer.**

## *Books by Pierre Berton*

The Royal Family, 1955  
 The Mysterious North, 1956  
 Klondike, 1958  
 Just Add Water and Stir, 1959  
 Adventures of a Columnist, 1960  
 Fast, Fast, Fast Relief, 1962  
 The Big Sell, 1963  
 The Comfortable Pew, 1965  
 The Cool, Crazy, Committed World of the Sixties, 1966  
 The Smug Minority, 1968  
 The National Dream, 1970  
 The Last Spike, 1971  
 Drifting Home, 1973  
 Hollywood's Canada, 1975  
 My Country, 1976  
 The Dionne Years, 1977  
 The Wild Frontier, 1978  
 The Invasion of Canada, 1980  
 Flames Across the Border, 1981  
 Why We Act Like Canadians, 1982  
 The Promised Land, 1983  
 Vimy, 1984  
 Starting Out, 1985  
 The Arctic Grail, 1988  
 The Mysterious North (Revised), '89  
 The Great Depression, 1990

### *Picture Books*

The New City (with Henri Rossier), 1961  
 Remember Yesterday, 1966  
 The Great Railway, 1972  
 The Klondike Quest, 1983

### *Anthologies*

Great Canadians, 1966  
 Pierre and Janet Berton's Canadian Food Guide, 1966  
 Historic Headlines, 1967

### *For Young Readers*

The Golden Trail, 1955  
 The Secret World of Og, 1961

### *Fiction*

Masquerade (as Lisa Kroniuk), 1985

The lucky winner of the 2 free Great Trekker Dinner tickets is James Windrum, BComm '80. Congrats. The correct answer to the question, "What was the date of the Great Trek" was, of course, 1922. Shame on you 1915 guessers.



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## See Pierre Berton at the Great Trekker Dinner!

The Great Trekker Dinner is held annually to honour those who made the trek from Fairview to the Point Grey campus in 1922.

This year's honoured guest is Pierre Berton. Tickets for the gala event, to be held at the Vancouver Hotel, are \$75 per person.

Call the Alumni Association NOW to reserve your tickets, (604) 228-3313. They're going fast!

# A Library Tour with Boadicea's Third Cousin

by Marjorie Simmins

Illustrations by  
Alan Hindle



Our mission will require a brave heart and sensible walking shoes. Armed only with an inquisitive mind and a belief in the power of the written word, you will boldly go where no alumni has ever gone before: to each of the twelve libraries on the UBC campus. However daunting you may find this challenge, remember you are opening doors to knowledge and excellent cocktail party trivia. It is your obligation to share the benefits of this journey.

I, myself, once believed there were only five or six libraries at UBC. And, in my naivety, thought libraries housed only books, and not records, CD disks, maps, manuscripts, computers and much more. The phrase Dewey-Decimal System no longer strikes a chord of fear in this proud soul, nor do the words microfiche and on-line data base. I have learned.

Think of me as your courageous guide, third cousin of Boadicea, the warrior queen of Britain. Onward, the turnstiles await our brash entrance.

Age before beauty. Or both, if you consider the grand architecture of **Main Library**. This formidable library, built in 1925, has probably caused more anxiety in undergraduates' psyches than a twenty-four hour cycle of midterm exams. We, however, are made of sterner stuff. So walk in. There are six levels of bookstacks in which to browse (euphemism for getting hopelessly lost) and only four entrances to these stacks (you'll just have to figure it out when you get there). Take your time, there are many divisions to see: fine arts, social sciences and humanities, the school of library archival and information studies, special collections, science and maps. You are in the largest library in British Columbia.

But don't worry, between the library staff and yours truly, you are in good hands. The librarians who work in Main Library are skilled problem-solvers. Have faith in people who answer over 1200 questions a day (this includes the oft-heard refrain: "Just exactly where am I?"). Now you understand the wisdom of sensible shoes: you could, if time permitted, peruse nearly 3 million volumes stretched out over fifty miles of stacks! And do take good care of the materials you borrow: can you imagine the insurance premiums on a collection valued at \$380 million?

Speak up, I can't hear you. You say you only want a copy of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer's Night's Dream"? Why didn't you say so? In that case, we're off to the **Sedgewick Undergraduate Library**. It not only

serves undergraduates, it serves them underground. That's right, follow me down the stairs to the library set up for students in all four years of Arts and the first two years of Science and Applied Science. We're going to use the on-line computer here, to see if the Bard's "Dream" is on the shelf. Trust me, this on-line procedure is twice as fast as either the card catalogue or the microfiche. See? There it is on the screen. There are six copies available and here's the call number to locate it. Would you prefer a hard or soft copy? Simple, right?

You look a bit frazzled. Happily, I have just the solution to calm your nerves: the **Wilson Recordings Library**. We don't have to go far, it's over here on the main floor of Sedgewick, all 30,000 records and 4,500 disc

I, myself, once believed there were only five or six libraries at UBC. And, in my naivety, thought libraries housed only books.

recordings of it. If you're studying Shakespeare, it's the perfect way to learn his plays. Just find a carrell, put on your record, adjust the earphones and *voilà*, let the drama begin.

If you want real-life drama, I recommend the **Law Library**. The librarians here, like all the UBC librarians, go out of their way to be helpful to the students, faculty and general public. Each day they take calls from judges, lawyers and private citizens, all seeking information about case reports and statutes, on subjects as diverse as copyright, marine law, estates and trusts, taxation and environmental protection, to name a few. All queries are handled promptly and courteously, whether the individual is a first-timer to the library or a regular, who is comfortable searching among the 165,000 bound volumes. Even the more colourful library users—those referred to as having "litigious paranoia"—are given whatever help and information they seek—no matter how often they seek it. All part of a day's work in this busy library so closely connected to the community beyond the University's borders.

Speaking of borders, the library on the campus' southernmost border is known as the **MacMillan Library**. In formal terms, MacMillan is the forestry and agricultural sciences library; informally, it is one of the more aesthetically pleasing *bibliothèques* at UBC. Natural lighting from skylights is one reason the long, rectangular room is appealing. Another unique feature is the flower-laden balcony just outside the library's entrance. If you can pull yourself away from this pretty balcony, the periodical collection which awaits you inside MacMillan is well worth an afternoon's exploration. Who could resist reading the latest issue of *Canadian Swine*? If that prospect doesn't thrill you, what about an encounter with *The Journal of Applied Bacteriology*? My favourite, hands down, is *Gleanings in Bee Culture*. And just in case you can't find what you're looking for, you are about to meet one of the most intrepid librarians at UBC. This fearless woman, who shall remain nameless due to reasons of modesty, once seriously attempted to formulate an answer to the following question: "How many cows are there in BC?" Only the lack of a helicopter and binoculars prevented her success.... So go ahead, ask her about the development of tree bark, she'd love to help you.

No matter how scintillating present company and subject, we must press on.

And now for something completely different: the **Data Library**, housed in the Computer Sciences Building. This is the largest data base library in Canada. What does this mean? It means computer readable data files, such as collections of Gallup polls, satellite images, stock market prices, company balance sheets and much more. It also means a severe case of the intimidation blues, if you do not take the time to speak to the head of this unusual library, who is more than willing to explain the mysteries of a place where numbers, not words, are king.

Numbers, of course, are the *raison d'être* of the **Mathematics Library**. This is a relatively small library, containing volumes on pure mathematics and computer science. I do not know what pure mathematics means (does an impure species exist?), but I do know that if you are prone to math phobia, you should avoid the wall marked "Math Theses" and quietly, respectfully, exit the building on the north side.

We're on the move again. This time to the **Music Library**. Unlike the Wilson Recordings Library, the



In formal terms, MacMillan is the forestry and agricultural sciences library; informally, it is one of the more aesthetically pleasing *bibliothèques* at UBC.



Music Library is a research collection, with books, periodicals, manuscript facsimiles and musical scores totalling about 60,000 titles. Here, too, you can settle in for a dreamy afternoon of classical music in one of the listening rooms. (Here's a thought: if you were an undergrad music student, instead of just a visitor, you would be tested on your recognition of many, many pieces of music. Perhaps only a few bars played and then, "Ms./Mr. Smith, please identify the preceding piece of music with particular regard to the central role of the woodwinds. In a thousand words or more, write a stylistic analysis of...."

Scary thought. But fears are to be conquered—and/or studied. Which is one of the reasons we are going to Graham House, where the **Social Work Library** resides (known as the Marjorie Smith Library). Down through the Rose Garden, cross over Northwest Marine Drive and curve right in front of this splendid three-storey mansion. Are these the luckiest librarians on campus or what? In the morning they can work with the students, guiding them to the just the right reference material on social welfare, social work methods and related subjects and at lunch they can step outside to an enormous garden set above the Pacific Ocean. The Graham family, who willed their twenty-one room house to UBC in 1963, were as renowned for their wonderful parties as they were for their generosity. Somehow you can still feel the *joie de vivre* in this house. My vote goes to call this library the most welcoming of the twelve at UBC.

But we haven't finished our tour yet. The next library we are visiting, the **Asian Library**, which is housed in the Asian Centre, has been called "The Jewel in the Crown" of the UBC library system. The Asian Centre, like the near-by Nitobe Gardens, has the structure and spirituality to make you forget the world outside. You concentrate only on the murmurings of Asia.

Where else could you see "Illustrated manuscripts written in courtly Urdu displaying historical personages from the Mughal period—18th & 19th century"? And imagine being surrounded by the mystery of nearly half a million items written in Asian languages. Perhaps you cannot understand them, but you can enjoy the sounds of words like Sanskrit, Punjabi, Bengali, Tamil, Marathi. If you understand Chinese, you could consider a book from the 45,000 volume (t'se in Chinese) P'u-pan Collection. If you simply want to look around the library, I suggest you go to the top floor where display cases with precious manuscripts, scrolls and paintings are set along one wall. For serenity, should you be seeking that elusive quality, read the description of the Mewar Painting (1630-1640 A.D.):

*"Walking in the bowers swarming with bumblebees,  
sweating induced by fatigue became profuse,  
In striving for you I am left  
wafting myself with lotus petals."*

Now don't become too serene, we've miles to go.

The next stop on our tour is the **Curriculum Laboratory**. This library, located on the third floor of the Neville Scarfe Building, offers specialized materials and services for teachers in training. The Curric Lab's claim to fame, as you can see, is the wide variety of materials it contains. In addition to text books on teaching trends, educational history and curriculum guides, there is a large collection of early childhood and juvenile fiction and audiovisual materials. There is also a French collection, for those who will be teaching in immersion schools. Even if

The Asian Centre, like the near-by Nitobe Gardens, has the structure and spirituality to make you forget the world outside. You concentrate only on the murmurings of Asia.

you've never considered teaching as a career, this is an intriguing library to explore.

Equally intriguing and considerably more complex in the nature of services provided, is the **Woodward Biomedical Library**, located in the medical quadrant of the university. Woodward serves the life and health sciences community on campus, as well as the community at large. Its collection is large and broad in scope: medicine, rehabilitation medicine, nursing, dentistry, pharmaceutical sciences, nutrition, zoology and more. Woodward provides clinical materials to the University Hospital on campus. It also staffs three off-campus teaching hospitals: Hamber Library at Children's/Grace/Shaugnessy hospitals, the Biomedical Branch at Vancouver General Hospital and St. Paul's Hospital Library.

The Health Sciences Library Network, established in 1982, is the cord which ties together these four widely separated health sciences libraries. Requests for information and materials are transmitted via fax machine and a daily delivery service. This means that students, faculty and hospital staff can have almost immediate access to information in any of the four libraries. If you are thinking this is a small service, consider this: over 40,000 requests are handled in a single year.

The staff in the Network Department of Woodward are not the only ones busy answering questions. In friendly competition with MacMillan for the weirdest query of the year, are the following questions directed to the reference desk at Woodward: "Is it legal to raise edible snails in Canada?" "What is the statistical distribution of eye colour in Canada?" "Where can a patron find a collection of pictures of various types of reptile eggs?" "Individual patron wishes to know how he can make LSD."

Individual librarian requests two week holiday on remote Aleutian island....

I have saved the most unusual library at UBC for our last visit. The **Charles Crane Memorial Library**, which concentrates on service to blind, visually impaired, physically disabled and print-handicapped users. It is the only one of its kind in North America.

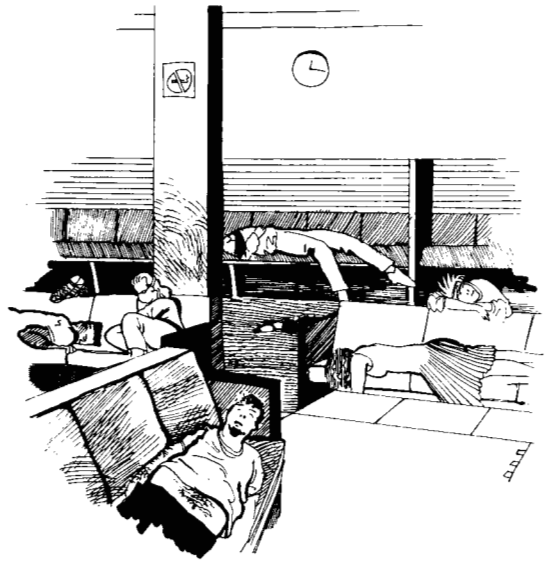
The Crane Library came into being in 1968, with the donation of almost 10,000 braille volumes from the late Charles Allan Crane. Initially, the library served as an informal reading room, but it became clear, within a year of opening its doors, that visually impaired students attending UBC and other educational institutions in BC and around the world, needed more to further their studies and goals than a collection of braille books. By 1970, a textbook recording service was put in place. Now there is a Recording Centre with nine recording studios and enough staff and equipment to produce hundreds of cassette copies per hour.

Crane also has a \$250,000 aids and appliance collection, which has many items designed to make print accessible. An example of one of these aids would be VISUALTEK, a close-circuit television system which magnifies print for the partially sighted.

Crane is not only a library and resource centre. It also publishes texts for world-wide, non-profit distribution and acts as a counselling centre and study/meeting place for visually impaired students.

All treks must come to an end, my good friend. I commend your curious spirit and hearty prairie walk. Long life to you.

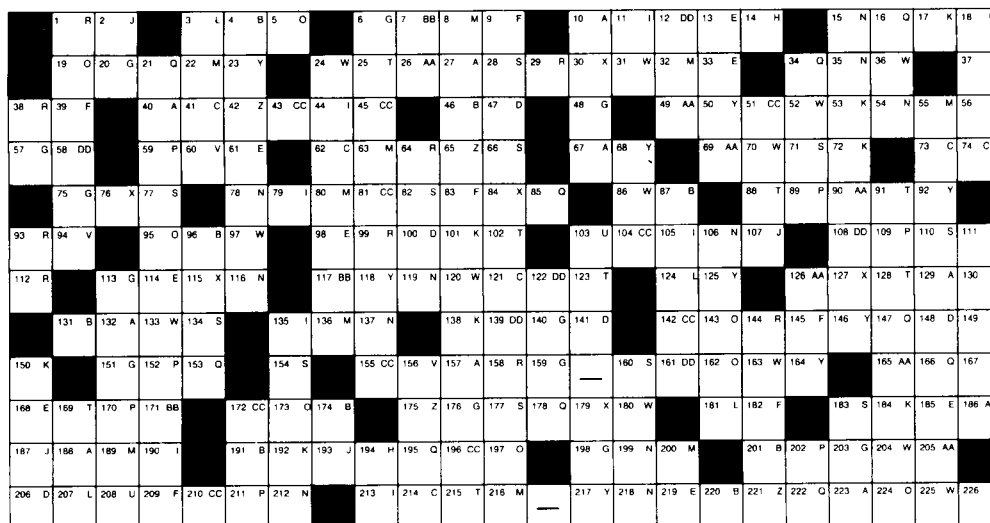
Oh, and one final question from her majesty Queen Boadicea. Where were stout folk like you when the Romans came?



"Is it legal to raise edible snails in Canada?" "What is the statistical distribution of eye colour in Canada?" "Where can a patron find a collection of pictures of various types of reptile eggs?"

# UBC Acrostic Puzzle #1

by Mary D. Trainer



When properly filled in, the letters in the box form a quotation from a UBC book. The first letter of each answered clue, reading down, form the name of the author and the title of the book.  
(Solution: Spring 1991 Issue)

Complete the puzzle, send it with your name and address to the Alumni Office by September 30, 1990, and you may win one of six Alumni mugs; the first three correct entries from B.C.; the first three from outside the province.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <p><b>A.</b> The ____; 1922 student/faculty tactic: 2 wds.</p> <p><b>B.</b> In debt: 3 wds.</p> <p><b>C.</b> Place to sleep on a ship</p> <p><b>D.</b> Treat unfairly (slang)</p> <p><b>E.</b> Library section</p> <p><b>F.</b> Indicated agreement</p> <p><b>G.</b> UBC playing field: 2 wds.</p> <p><b>H.</b> ____ Nicol, UBC grad and humourist</p> <p><b>I.</b> Enlarge beyond limits</p> <p><b>J.</b> Cinnamon ____; cafeteria specialty</p> <p><b>K.</b> Abated</p> <p><b>L.</b> Attestation of truth</p> <p><b>M.</b> Laid aside; no longer useful: 3 wds.</p> <p><b>N.</b> Grad's advice to freshman: 3 wds.</p> | <p><b>O.</b> ____ violet, LLB degree colour</p> <p><b>P.</b> Liquid distilled from petroleum</p> <p><b>Q.</b> Dr. Kenny's former position: 3 wds.</p> <p><b>R.</b> Refreshing drink might do this: 3 wds.</p> <p><b>S.</b> Well-known Greens: 3 wds.</p> <p><b>T.</b> Jay about campus</p> <p><b>U.</b> Large land tract set aside for UBC: (abbrev.)</p> <p><b>V.</b> Stylish; pleasing (slang)</p> <p><b>W.</b> Musqueam's home near UBC: 2 wds.</p> <p><b>X.</b> Place ____ : UBC residence</p> <p><b>Y.</b> Dangle Volkswagens</p> <p><b>Z.</b> Phyllis ____; UBC Chancellor</p> <p><b>AA.</b> Intoxicated</p> <p><b>BB.</b> Climbs walls</p> <p><b>CC.</b> ____ Shacks; 1915 UBC temporary buildings: 2 wds.</p> <p><b>DD.</b> Cadmium ____; MLS degree colour</p> | <p>162 143 224 95 173 197 5</p> <p>211 152 89 109 170 202 59</p> <p>85 16 195 222 178 34 166</p> <p>38 1 226 29 112 64 158</p> <p>82 77 183 154 28 134 177</p> <p>25 91 128 215 169 123 102</p> <p>208 18 103</p> <p>60 156 94 37 130</p> <p>86 133 180 120 31 225 204</p> <p>127 76 179 30 84 115</p> <p>23 50 217 118 125 92 68</p> <p>221 42 65 175</p> <p>26 186 49 90 69 165 126</p> <p>7 117 171</p> <p>172 45 210 155 104 142 196</p> <p>58 12 122 161 139 108</p> |
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