



# Internal research newsletter



## MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT RESEARCH

### A Strategic Research Plan for UVic

The University of Victoria (UVic) is nationally and internationally renowned for its broad and deep research strengths, the caliber of our faculty, staff and students, and the social impact of our work. The many benchmarks, rankings, testimonies and our continued success in attracting external research funding, attest to our research excellence.

Research is always at the forefront of new knowledge production and the generation of new ways of doing things. Researchers anticipate, and thrive on, this novelty and change. At the same time, however, the context in which we do research is ever-changing. Internal to the university, new organizational dynamics have arisen as UVic has become one of the top research intensive universities in Canada. External to the university, the public discourse

about the value of higher education and universities' social role continues, at precisely the same time that funders of research heighten expectations for productivity and partnerships.

A Strategic Research Plan for UVic is being developed by the Office of the Vice-President Research, the intent of which is to assess our research excellence and capacity for technological and social innovation, and harness our capacities and competencies to meet the challenges of the changing contexts of research. Envisioned is a flexible and adaptive plan, one that will enable UVic to achieve three main objectives. First, we need to carefully assess the internal and external contexts of research, including research support services, and develop strategies to better support researchers across campus. Second, we need to benchmark UVic research

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This newsletter is compiled by the Office of the Vice-President Research using submissions from the University of Victoria research community.

We would appreciate your feedback and suggestions on how to improve the research newsletter. Please take a few minutes to fill in the survey at <http://bit.ly/1CBnpl>

## Active season for the School of Music

It was another active season for School of Music faculty. Highlights include performances by all faculty-conducted student ensembles, including the first ever joint concert featuring all UVic choral groups in community venues at St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church, Oak Bay and Christ Church Cathedral. New faculty member Dr. Adam Con made his debut as conductor of the UVic Chorus. UVic Wind Symphony, under the direction of Dr. Gerald King, joined forces with the Naden Band, led by Lieutenant (Navy) Matthew Clark, in a concert that highlights the strong ties between the School and its community partners. Students in the Vocal Jazz Ensemble entertained audiences with arrangements by the group's conductor, Wendell Clanton, at the "Shades of Blue" concert. Conductor Michael Keddy led the Don Wright Symphonic Winds in a dazzling concert titled Colours! UVic Concerto Concert winners Ella Hopwood (cello) and Elizabeth Clarke (piano) performed with the UVic Orchestra, under the direction of Ajtony Csaba. Patrick Boyle and the Jazz Ensemble performed in spaces ranging from McKinnon Gym (where they cheered on the Vikes) to Hermann's Jazz Club, to the recital hall, with repertory reflecting the diversity of venues and audiences.

Faculty members showcased music from jazz, to Klezmer, to Bach and Liszt, with chamber music and concerts featuring



Patrick Boyle (trumpet and guitar), Suzanne Snizek (flute), Patricia Kostek (celebrating 25 years at UVic, clarinet), Arthur Rowe (piano), Alexandra Pohran Dawkins (oboe), and the Lafayette String Quartet, with Ann Elliott-Goldschmid (violin), Pamela Highbaugh Aloni (cello), Joanna Hood (viola) and Sharon Stanis (violin).

—Susan Lewis

## Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA)

The Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) is a large, national, long-term study. As of October 2014, more than 43,000 participants have been recruited and completed baseline interviews. Recruitment of all 50,000 CLSA participants is anticipated to be completed by summer 2015. At the UVic Data Collection site, more than 2400 comprehensive assessments have been completed. This achievement would not have been possible without the outstanding CLSA staff, including Lindsay Richier, project coordinator, who have worked long hours to ensure the study runs smoothly and who are the face of the CLSA to the study participants.

Accessing data from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) was the theme of a workshop on Oct. 31, 2014 at the Centre on Aging (COAG) at UVic. CLSA Co-Site Leads, Debra Sheets and Lynne Young gave presentations on the availability of the baseline data from the telephone interviews, as well as led a discussion on developing a collaborative UVic program of research using the CLSA data. The workshop was well-attended and the importance of engaging the community was identified as a priority. The CLSA will be featured at an IdeaFest event to inform the development of themed areas for analyzing the CLSA data.

—Debra Sheets