

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

May 2010

President's Report

Reports received from academic and service units are included below. An update of the President's activities for the month of April will be presented at the meeting.

Student Services (Vi Chappell, Director)

The CANIMUN (Canadian International Model United Nations) conference is a four-day bilingual event, held this year on March 17 – 20. Organized by UNA-Canada (United Nations Association in Canada) in partnership with the Government of Canada, CANIMUN offers a unique pan-Canadian International Model UN (United Nations) experience for post-secondary level delegates from across Canada and around the world. UFV students, Raji Toor, Rahul Talwar, Kate Nickelchok, and Nicole Williscroft, attended the conference in Vancouver. The students were supported by Student Life through a Coast Capital Savings funding initiative.

The following is a short report that showcases the experience of our students.

“The CANIMUN 2010 conference was superb! It was truly an educational and inspirational experience in the deepest of senses. Raji, Raul, Nicole and I represented UFV well and with pride. We all spoke up, and were noticeably active participants. So much so, that the UN Daises repeatedly mentioned they were impressed by UFV, especially considering we were among the last to register. Nicole spoke so well the first day of the conference the organizers decided to revolve Saturday's Special Crisis Committee around Cameroonian issues, the country which Nicole represented. I can proudly say that I took the "Best Speaker" award back to UFV with me. More than just an inspirational experience, I feel that CANIMUN has elevated me to new levels of understanding in my chosen field of study - Global Development. So much of what we learn in classrooms are conceptual conversations on abstract ideologies, CANIMUN brought what usually would be purely textbook matter into full and concrete fruition. Not only was the conference an opportunity for me to network with some of the world's most influential players in international relations (UN Programmers, NGO (Non-Governmental Organizations) heads, IJC (International Joint Commission) delegates) but it provided an excellent opportunity for networking with other leaders within UFV. Nicole, Raji, Raul and I all represent different clubs and associations at UFV and the four of us are taking home what we have learned at the model UN and applying it directly to UFV Student Life. I feel more inspired in my schooling, more enlightened in my role within Student Life, and more driven in my pursuit of a career in Global Development. Thank you again for the opportunity!” (Kate Nickelchok).

Faculty of Trades & Technology (Harv McCullough, Dean)

Rolf Arnold, Director of Trades & Technology Training, attended an invitation-only conference sponsored by the BC Federation of Labor. This conference was attended by Kevin Evans, CEO ITA (Industry Training Authority); Jim Sinclair, BC Federation of Labour and about 150 labor leaders, and educators including several Presidents and VP's.

Minister Moira Stillwell was the keynote luncheon speaker at the event. In her speech, Minister Stilwell spoke about being leaders and at the forefront of technology. She stated that, UFV was an example of being innovative by having a great relationship with Chrysler where students and instructors are exposed to the latest technologies on cars, which are not even in the showrooms yet.

Skills Canada:

The 16th Annual BC Skills Canada Competition was held at the Tradex on April 21. This is the provincial competition for post-secondary institutions and secondary school students who won gold in the regional competition. UFV Trades was involved in hosting a number of competitions at the regional event which was held on March 31.

UFV Trades programming is proud to announce that we received one gold and two silver medals at the provincial competition.

Architectural Drafting – Gregory Krekic – Gold
Architectural Drafting – Dan Taylor – Silver
Electrical Wiring – John Sprietsma – Silver

UFV/CTC Trades programming is proud to announce that we received one silver and two bronze medals at the provincial competition.

CTC Electrical Wiring – Marley LaFortune - Silver
CTC Automotive Service Technician – Andrew Fox – Bronze
CTC Cabinetmaking – Lance Graham – Bronze

Dr. Mark Evered was one of the speakers at the VIP luncheon, and highlighted the importance of these competitions.

BC Custom Car Show:

The Autobody Collision Repair & Refinishing program made its first public trade show appearance at the BC Custom Car Show held at Tradex April 22-24. The program had a booth and a 1953 Ford pickup on display. The Ford pickup was refinished by the students and painted a Mitsubishi pearl-orange colour with a satin finish. The students were all very excited about seeing the almost finished truck out in public for all to see. The show stirred a lot of interest and was a great launch to the program's first year. UFV's Autobody Collision Repair & Refinishing program is unique in Canada, as it dovetails the traditional autobody trade into the hot-rod and restoration industries.

Faculty of Arts (Jacqueline Nolte, A/Dean)

Economics:

The Dean's office would like to congratulate Vlad Dvoracek who earned his Chartered Financial Analyst designation this winter. Vlad reports that the Economics department is currently busy working on a proposal for a major in Economics.

Fashion Design:

UFV's annual fashion show, *Absolute Style*, took to the stage on Wednesday, April 28 in the Student Activity Centre on the Abbotsford campus with a matinee and evening presentation. The UFV Alumni Association was pleased to host the wine and cheese reception at the evening show. A display of work and designs from UFV Fashion Design students was showcased in the hallways and classrooms of UFV's Fashion wing in Building D.

History:

An *Enhanced Canadian Citizenship Ceremony* took place at UFV on April 8, attended by 30 new Canadian citizens, their families and friends. The ceremony is a partnership between UFV, the Institute for Canadian Citizenship, the Gladwin Language Centre, and Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Many of the participants commented on how moving the experience was, and how glad they were to have attended.

Fraser Valley Regional Heritage Fair took place on April 29 and 30, 120 local students from grades four to seven exhibited their Canadian history projects at UFV's Student Centre. UFV student volunteers welcomed the students, their parents and teachers, helped with workshops, crafts, scavenger hunts and acted as UFV Ambassadors to the community, helping to make the fair a successful and memorable occasion. UFV faculty and staff served as judges and many community groups participated in introducing heritage activities to the students as well as members of the public.

The Heritage Fair has been a partnership between UFV's History department, the MSA Museum Society, and regional school districts for the past seven years.

Modern Languages:

On March 1, UFV hosted a Russian delegation from Cherepovets State University. UFV Modern Languages department plans to collaborate with them regarding their Russian language program. There was discussion about a Memorandum of Understanding between UFV and Cherepovets State University.

UFV's Chinese program has been run by a sessional with considerable success. Three students have won awards including Laura Friesen who studied Mandarin at UFV and won a world competition for the second time in two years.

On April 30, the Standing Committee on Language Articulation, which includes linguists from all over B.C., met at UFV regarding transferability.

PHIL/POSC (Philosophy/Political Science):

A retirement party for PHIL/POSC instructor Scott Fast was held on Thursday, April 29 in University House, celebrating Scott's 35 years at UFV.

The Minister of Education has signed off on the Philosophy Major and the Degree Quality Assessment Board wrote a favorable letter in support of the UFV Political Science program. The department is awaiting the Ministry's final approval.

Psychology:

The Psychology department is proud to announce that UFV's psychology student, Tanya Jonker was the recipient of the Alexander Graham Bell NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council) scholarship and has been accepted by the University of Waterloo.

Program Coordinator:

Cheryl Dahl reports that an expanded and re-organized BFA (Bachelor of Fine Arts), with extended minors and minors in Fashion Design, Graphic Design, Creative Writing, Art History, Media and Communication Studies, and Theatre is being prepared for Ministry submission.

Social, Cultural and Media Studies:

Nicola Mooney was involved in the organization of two events: *Diasporizing Punjab* and *Disorienting Bhangra*, presented by UFV and UBC in collaboration with the Vancouver International Bhangra Celebration. On May 5 & 6 papers were presented by Satwinder Kaur Bains (UFV), Verne Dusenbery (Hamline University), Margaret Walton-Roberts (Wilfrid Laurier University), Inderpal Grewal (Yale University), Doris Jakobsh (University of Waterloo), and Michael Nijhawan (York University). These events contributed to an intellectual and theoretical understanding of the contemporary Punjabi diaspora experience. Bringing together scholars from a number of disciplines, the event focused on some of the historical trajectories, cultural contours, and modes of commemorative, artistic, and popular cultural expression that characterize trans-national Punjabi life.

Visual Arts:

The Diploma Grad Show ran from March 20 to April 16 at the Chilliwack Arts Centre and the BFA Grad Exhibition ran from April 27 to May 17 in B131 & C Building. On Friday, April 29, the VA (Visual Arts) Study Tour left for London and returned May 9.

Theatre:

A Midsummer Night's Dream (March 10-28) drew an audience of 2,610 and ranked third highest production in the history of a single run of a play. Nine of the 15 performances were sold out including three high school matinees.

UFV's Theatre department hosted the *Directors' Festival*, April 28 - May 2. The official opening ceremony was April 29. There was an excess of 150 university students from around the province involved in this festival (UFV, VIU, Capilano, SFU, UVIC, TRU and TWU). The festival draws 2000 - 3000 spectators each year.

Geography:

The following is an excerpt from the department's year-end review of activities, compiled by Department Head Ken Brealey. To obtain a copy of the full report, please contact deborah.greenfield@ufv.ca.

Instructor Steven Marsh supervised two Work Study students, Jenna Fenslau and Bryce Downey, in stream sampling research in collaboration with the Wood's Hole Oceanographic Institute. Michelle Hooglund and Sydney Sallstrom received Work Study research positions looking at planning issues in rural Kenya under the supervision of instructor Cherie Enns.

Justine Cullen worked for faculty member Olav Lian in the summer and fall of 2009, funded by a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research of Canada Undergraduate Student Research Award and by Olav's Natural Sciences and Engineering Research of Canada Discovery Grant. Nolan Alexander (Geography) and Kelly McLeod (Physics) both worked for Olav throughout 2009 via Work Study and Research Assistantship positions. Undergraduate students working in Olav's lab benefited from the additional mentorship offered by graduate students under Olav's supervision, including Michelle Hanson (PhD candidate, SFU Department of Earth Sciences), Andrew Perkins (PhD candidate, SFU Geography), and Adrian Hickin, (PhD candidate, SFU). Winter Moon, supported by a prestigious Natural Sciences and Engineering Research of Canada scholarship, continued with her MSc research in Olav's lab. In September 2009, former UFV Geography Honours student Dave Sacco began his MSc research in the Department of Earth Sciences at SFU, and he will soon be returning to UFV to conduct some of his research in Olav's lab.

Yevgeniy Kim took a Work Study position under the supervision of instructor Scott Shupe, and in the field in Arizona and the Okanagan for purposes of developing refinements to the Java program classifying land cover categories. Scott also supervised Jason Thiessen, who worked on Geographical Information Systems classification of watershed boundaries.

Instructor Garry Fehr supervised Gabrielle Thomson on a BC Social Policy Research Grant looking at lichens as indicators of air quality in the lower Fraser Valley.

Instructor Jonathan Hughes has supported students doing undergraduate research in natural hazards and environmental change. The students' salary was provided by an Natural Sciences and Engineering Research of Canada Undergraduate Student Research Award, two Work Study positions, three Research Assistant positions, and funding from a collaborator at SFU. Students supported included Nathalie Armstrong, Greg Bauch, Emily Helmer, Ashley Peters, Roxanne Snook, Alanna Schuurmans, Lee van Ardenne, and Kevin VanderBoom.

Student Conference Presentations:

Justine Cullen presented her research '*Reinterpretation of a significant lithostratigraphic unit resting on the last interglaciation, Muir Point formation, Southwestern British Columbia*' at the Canadian Quaternary conference. Gabrielle Thomson presented her poster '*Lichens as indicators of air quality*' at the Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geography Student Poster Competition in Nanaimo in early March and at UFV Undergraduate Student Research Day in early April.

With instructor Jonathan Hughes, three students co-presented posters at Undergraduate Student Research Day: a) Emily Helmer '*Intertidal sedimentation, peat accumulation, and vegetation community analysis at the head of Rivers Inlet, British Columbia, Canada*'; b) Alanna Schuurmans '*Annual growth of shorepine on the Chehalis River fan, southwestern British Columbia in response to Chum salmon abundance, freshet flooding and regional drought*'; and c) Kevin Vander-Boom '*Do earthquake survivor trees record damage from co-seismic shaking?*' Emily Helmer, Ashleigh Gilbert and Grahame Gielens presented a poster with Jonathan Hughes at the Canadian Quaternary Association and the Canadian Geomorphology Research Group

biennial meeting in May 2009. Alanna Schuurmans presented her research for the City of Abbotsford's Arbour Day celebration at Mill Lake on May 8.

At the Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geography in Nanaimo in March, several UFV Geography students gave poster or paper presentations. In addition to Gabrielle Thomson, referred to above, several students collaborated with classmates to present four posters resulting from their work in the Borderlands Initiative:

- Lillian Harrington, Brandon Peters and Pam Rayburn on '*Cascadia: Perspective on the shared commonalities and an explanation of diversity*';
- Nicole Thompson, Chris Hjort-Olsen and Ashley Speckman on '*American and Canadian surgeries: A comparative study*';
- Annette de Vries and Margaret Rogalski on '*Effectiveness of agreements between Canada, US, and First Nations in managing salmon stocks*';
- Melissa Kendzierski and Dave de Kleer on '*Person for profit? A look at cross-border trends in the Canadian and American health-care systems*';
- Jessica Stewart and Kathleen Mintz on '*Getting around the border: First Nations' issues*'.
- Michelle Hoogland gave a paper presentation '*Children and the city: Planning for child friendly Chandigarh*'.

Student Awards:

Each year, the department gives out three awards. In 2009, awards went to Michelle Hooglund, Canadian Association of Geographers Award for the highest overall GPA of a graduating Geography Major; Jared Legare, American Association of Geographers Award for a high GPA and good contribution to departmental life; and Courtney Burnett, Doug Nicol Memorial Award for a high GPA, and all round good performance in physical and human geography and departmental involvement.

At Undergraduate Student Research Day April 2, The Dean of Research Award (first overall) Luminescence Dating Lab, and Dean of Arts Awards went to Justine Cullen, Kevin VanderBoom and Gabrielle Thomson respectively for their posters referred to in the previous section. Geography students therefore took home three of the four category awards at the 2009 Undergraduate Student Research Day.

Emily Helmer won a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research of Canada Undergraduate Student Research Award and a Rotary Club of Chilliwack two-year annual scholarship (but had to decline the latter in order to receive the Undergraduate Student Research Award). Alanna Schuurmans won a TD Canada Endowment Scholarship for Studies Related to the Environment and was the departmental winner of a \$1,000 UFV Undergraduate Research Excellence Award in June for her poster noted in the previous section.

The department remains encouraged by the fact that our graduates have been reporting back to us considerable success in finding employment in a range of fields including environmental engineering, urban planning, geotechnical research, police training, municipal government and public school teaching.

Faculty of Professional Studies (Rosetta Khalideen, Dean)

ECE/CYC (Early Childhood Education/Child & Youth Care):

On March 25 the ECE/CYC department co-hosted, in collaboration with the School of Social Work and Human Service, a presentation by Dr. Krishna Pendakur (SFU) on the topic "The Economics of Poverty". The session was well attended by students, faculty, and community partners, who all seemed pleased with the stimulating presentation.

The ECE Curriculum Committee has completed the draft of the proposal for a Bachelor of Early Childhood Education. This new program will allow students to pursue several new career possibilities, including the option of progressing to teacher training in order to teach in full-day Kindergarten.

The CYC program is actively working with the Child and Youth Care Educators' Consortium to finalize the CYC field competencies document. This project, in collaboration with several other public post-secondary institutions, has taken a number of years to develop. We are very pleased with the results.

The CYC program is also participating in a national program accreditation project that will begin standardizing best education practice across Canada. This project will provide our students with greater credibility in the field through greater definition of best practice.

LIBIT (Library and Information Technology):

In an effort to assist with program development, the department issued two surveys to the library and information technology population in March. Preliminary results from these questionnaires reveal substantial support for more development of the program, including more advanced courses in the field that would be bundled in, potentially, a minor and/or major in information studies. Equally notable was support for credentialing for library technicians in Canada.

At the BC Library Conference, the Library and Information Technology department hosted a booth in the exhibitors' hall encouraging people to look towards UFV for continuing studies opportunities, as well as promoting the department's 30-year reunion this fall. The booth was very favorably received by many of the 400 delegates, who saw value in UFV representing itself as an educational resource for the information community. This event also validates the incredible efforts made by the department in recent years to bolster its program and expand its role in the field.

SWHS (School of Social Work and Human Services):

Dr. Elizabeth Dow is the new Director of the School of SWHS, effective April 1.

The School of SWHS is developing a Master of Social Work degree. As part of the provincial degree approval process, the DQAB (Degree Quality Assessment Board) made a site visit on April 16 and 17. The resulting DQAB report states that "the proposed MSW meets the Degree Program Review Criteria and Standards, on the condition that four areas requiring further actions are undertaken". With UFV's support, the School aims to accept graduate students into the MSW program starting in January 2011.

Dr. Adrienne Chan presented a paper at Oxford University (UK) in March 2010, entitled "Women at the Boundaries" as part of an international conference on Women in the Academy. The paper focuses on the experiences of women of colour/racialized women who work in the university. The themes from the paper focus on the ways in which universities contain women, as well as acts of resistance and ways in which we can challenge boundaries that are placed upon us. The paper will be submitted for publication.

Dr. Chan also presented in a panel entitled "Non-traditional students in Higher education" in April 2010. This panel presentation was part of a Canada/United Kingdom joint project, involving UBC, SFU, UFV and the University of Warwick. The focus of Dr. Chan's presentation was on learning identities and the convergence with the social identities of students, and how these influences further learning processes and access to learning.

Dr. Chan chaired the planning committee for the UFV Professional Development Day on Race, Racism, and Anti-Racism, held on May 4.

Dr. Robert Harding's latest research is detailed in "The Demonization of Aboriginal Child Welfare in the News," an article appearing in the *Canadian Journal of Communication* (Vol. 35, No. 1, 2010).

Christina Henderson (BSW Student) presented a poster at the UFV Undergraduate Research Fair in March. The poster is based on Christina's work with Dr. Adrienne Chan, Dr. Rita Dhamoon (Poli Sc) and Dr. Lisa Moy. Ms. Henderson's poster received the Dean of Professional Studies Award.

Gwen Point conducted a workshop on Self-Care at the sixth annual Aboriginal Women's Wellness Conference on the Saanich Peninsula in March.

Curtis Magnuson, a long-serving faculty member with the School of Social Work & Human Services, has accepted a two-year secondment to the position of Human Rights & Conflict Resolution Officer for the University of the Fraser Valley commencing August 1, 2010.

Teaching and Development (Karen Evan, Associate VP)

Career Centre:

All Career Centre staff worked on a major re-vamp of the Career Centre website, which now provides more comprehensive and easier to find information on career education and development, job search resources, 'what to do with my major' pages, a comprehensive Student Handbook on Co-operative Education and how-to guides for students, as well as an On-Campus Recruitment Guide for employers, a comprehensive Co-op Employer Manual and a guide to using CareerLink. Additional resources are being continually added.

Laura Dunn retired in October 2009, and her position as Work Study Coordinator and Career Centre Administrative Assistant has been filled by Baljit Dhaliwal, who came to us from International Education.

We were very successful in promoting VANOC opportunities to students. VANOC approached the post-secondary institutions with a new student hiring program on very short notice. Thanks to

CareerLink, we were able to circulate information to students and within one week had 134 UFV applications with approximately 30 students being hired.

Career Services has experienced a busy and highly successful academic year. So Jeon joined us in early September, filling the position of Lindsay Sasaki, who is on leave. In the fall semester, thanks to CareerLink, we were able to start detailed tracking of our service to students. In Fall '09, a total of 2578 students received services; 276 through in-class workshops, other workshops and events to students in International Ed., Accounting, BASA (Business Administration Student Association), Social Services, Criminology, Hospitality and Event planning, CHARTS (Chilliwack Arts Cohort), and high school orientation; 83 through personal advising/coaching appointments (from across disciplines); five students through "CC (Career Centre) To Go" locations; 574 walk-ins; 820 phone calls; and 820 emails. A highlight was two events done in partnership with Alumni Relations, the BASA "Speed Networking", and the Accounting Alumni Mentorship event.

The Winter 2010 semester featured the launch of the Career Peer program, in which trained students provide front-line advising and coaching to their peers, and the UFV's first Summer Job Fair. The major Career Fair will be held on October 6, 2010. Thanks to the work of the student Career Peers, the number of students receiving personal service increased substantially. Overall, 3006 students received service from Career Services in Winter 2010; 983 through events and workshops, included 400 who attended the Summer Job Fair; 184 (compared to 83 in the previous semester) in personal appointments; 30 in CC To Go; 469 walk-ins; 670 phone calls; and 670 emails. These figures are as of April 9, 2010. Additional events this semester involved participating in mock interviews at Pitt Meadows Secondary, and on a graduate transition panel at Maple Ridge Secondary. Several professional accounting associations were on campus, and a "Meet and Mingle" event with Canada Revenue Agency management staff was attended by 80 students.

Two hundred thirty non-Co-op positions were posted in fall, and 275 non-Co-op positions in winter. Revenue generated from employer information sessions, tables and attendance at the Summer Job Fair was \$3,637.75.

The Work Study program was successfully migrated to CareerLink, which has helped cut down on the administrative work load by having individual supervisors post their positions on-line, and students applying to the positions online. Two hundred forty two students have held Work Study positions over the fall and winter semesters. A major review of the Work Study program is being undertaken by the Work Study Working Group. This program has not been reviewed since government funding ceased in 2002. Extensive consultations with stakeholders and a survey of work study programs at other institutions have been taking place. A report and recommendations will be going to Senior Administration later this summer.

Co-operative Education this year instituted multiple intakes into Co-op, from our previous once-per-year intake. This has resulted in 252 students in Co-op program this semester, up from an estimated 126 in the 07/08 academic year, and 150 in the 08/09 academic year. Again, CareerLink now enables us to keep detailed statistics.

We continue to make improvements in our pre-employment curriculum. Student evaluations of the curriculum since Feb. '09, when data began to be collected, to present, have improved substantially from 33 percent to 89 percent of students strongly agreeing the workshop contained valuable information, from 33 percent to 63 percent strongly agreeing that the workshops made

them think, and from 33 percent to 74 percent strongly agreeing that the workshop met their learning expectations.

Total placements per academic year (eg. Summer '05-Winter '06) are as follows: 05/06 – 95; 06/07-109; 07/08-139; 08/09-109; 09/10 (to date) - 72. The total number of job postings in the 09/10 period was 378. Data is not available for prior years, although anecdotally our sense is that the number of postings has dropped somewhat since 2008. While the number of Co-op job postings is gradually increasing (125 for Summer '09, 116 for Fall '09, 138 for Summer '10), we are noting fewer postings over the last year from public agencies, such as Corrections, CBSA (Canada Border Services Agency), and the province, which traditionally are strong employers for UFV. Placements for the Summer '10 semester are 28 as of this writing, with several more pending, compared to 33 placements in Summer '09. An issue for Co-op at UFV continues to be lack of student applications to Co-op positions; of our 138 postings, only 57 received any applications.

Rachel Armstrong, who was filling in for Susan Francis' leave, left us in April to take a long term contract with UBC Co-op. Bao-Van Hill, a UFV alumni and seasoned employment counsellor, will be filling the balance of the Francis leave.

