The University of British Columbia, aspiring to be one of the world’s best universities, will prepare students to become exceptional global citizens, promote the values of a civil and sustainable society, and conduct outstanding research to serve the people of British Columbia, Canada, and the world.
Think Global: Raising the Bar at UBC

For more than three-quarters of a century, the idea of UBC has been indivisible from its principal place – from the campus on Vancouver’s exquisite Point Grey. Of course, the reality of UBC transcended that physical location. British Columbia’s oldest and biggest university has long been a happy collaboration of academic schools, colleges and faculties, of academic hospital partners and campuses ranging from exclusive spaces such as UBC Robson Square to shared operations like the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre or the nascent Great Northern Way campus.

But nothing in our history has been quite like the opening of UBC Okanagan. For the first time since 1922, when students and faculty trekked from inadequate facilities in downtown Vancouver to the Point Grey site, UBC is marking the inauguration of a brand new, freestanding and largely autonomous campus. The Kelowna incarnation, which officially began operations in September, is a distinct entity, governed by its own Senate, but it is also critically linked to take advantage of the experience and resources of the UBC system. That could include everything from UBC’s expertise in conceiving, funding and executing Nobel-quality research to UBC’s ability to connect to the wider world through resources such as the new Asia Pacific Regional Office. With one stroke, we have introduced UBC’s world-class standards to the Southern Interior, expanding opportunities for students in the Okanagan and Kootenay valleys and building the educational and economic capacity of neighbouring communities.

The number one goal, at UBC Okanagan as at UBC Vancouver, will be to spread the UBC Vision, a vision of citizenship, scholarship and sustainability. In updating UBC’s Trek Strategic Plan in November 2004, the UBC Board of Governors – guided by a consultative process in the UBC community – realigned our most important priorities. Our new Vision correctly identifies teaching and research excellence as the foundation stones on which we can build toward a higher ideal. It is not enough only to train experts and professionals; UBC must create leaders, educating citizens who are fully engaged in their communities – in the fragile but endlessly promising global community.

Looking at the leaders in our community – at prominent citizens, alumni and UBC donors like Ike and Jean Barber, Bill and Marjorie Sauder, Stewart and Marilyn Blusson, and Ross and Trisha Beaty – it’s clear that this is a function that UBC has been performing for many decades. It is our intent to build on that proud history, to focus our efforts to ensure that every UBC student graduates with that heightened sense of social responsibility – as well as a heightened capacity to make a difference, in their own lives and in the wider world.

On every front, we have enjoyed a stellar 12 months, inaugurating new buildings like the Life Sciences Centre and the Michael Smith Laboratories and cementing UBC’s position as one of the top 50 research universities in the world.

Our course is set. It will give us greater confidence and great potential in this new year.

– Martha C. Piper, President and Vice Chancellor
SEPTEMBER 04: The legacy of Nobel prize-winning biochemist Michael Smith takes a physical form with the opening of the $300-million, 7,500-square-metre Michael Smith Laboratories.

Brett Finlay, the UBC Peter Wall Distinguished Professor whom Smith recruited personally in 1989, is one of 15 principal investigators and 225 people who will work in the three-storey building.

“This is a remarkable group of academic investigators whose research discoveries have crossed scientific disciplines in extraordinary ways and who represent international leadership in biotechnology,” says Phil Hieter, MSL director. “It would be no surprise if UBC’s next Nobel Prize came from this lab.”

OCTOBER 04: Although modesty is not a prerequisite for recipients of the Great Trekker Award, UBC Learning Exchange Director Dr. Margo Fryer could certainly have qualified on that merit.

“It’s really the Learning Exchange – not just me – that’s being recognized,” she said when receiving the award. “And it’s especially fitting that the Great Trekker Award is coming to an initiative that is so tied to community (outreach) and to the Trek vision (UBC’s strategic plan).”

The award is presented by the student-run Alma Mater Society to an alumni member who has achieved recognition in their chosen field, made a special contribution to the community and maintained a continued interest in UBC.

A new Victory Through Honour totem pole stands tall again at Brock Hall more than 50 years after the original carving was first gifted to the university.

As a symbol of welcome to Aboriginal students, the original totem was carved by renowned Kwicikwatsustaineuk artist Ellen Neel, one of the first female carvers in the world. It was presented to the Alma Mater Society by the Neel family and the late Kwickwasutaineuk Chief William Scow in 1948.

The years having ravaged the first pole, the Neel and Scow families participated in commissioning a replica, carved by Calvin Hunt.

“With just over 500 Aboriginal students at UBC today, the pole will serve as a visual reminder of UBC’s commitment to increasing Aboriginal student enrolment and to building strong relationships with our First Nations neighbours,” says UBC Community Affairs executive director Sid Katz.

Jeff Francis, the first member of a Canadian university baseball team to be drafted and play in Major League Baseball, joins the Chancellor’s Circle, having given more than $30,000 to the UBC baseball program. Francis is now a starting pitcher for the Colorado Rockies.

NOVEMBER 04: Medical training and research in British Columbia leaps ahead in the new Life Sciences Centre, a $134 million interdisciplinary teaching and research facility.

The Centre includes three major elements: a state-of-the-art teaching facility that will enable UBC to help almost double the number of doctors trained in British Columbia every year; the Life Sciences Institute, a 25,000-square-metre international hub for interdisciplinary, basic biological research; and the Centre for Blood Research, a national centre established to help ensure the safety, security and quality of Canada’s blood supply, as well as to lead the world on new blood-related research.

A RESEARCH POWERHOUSE

For the third straight year, UBC ranked in the top 40 of the world’s best universities. In a 2005 study of life sciences technology transfer and commercialization, UBC ranked ninth in North America, ahead of such prestigious universities as Columbia and Johns Hopkins and all other Canadian universities.

DECEMBER 04: In the midst of one of the most lavish celebrations in the Western tradition, Vancouverites join the world in horror, watching as a devastating earthquake and tsunami crash the coasts of the Indian Ocean.

At a memorial service on January 5, 2005, UBC President Martha Piper called for donations, directly to the tsunami victims and also to a Global Service Learning Fund in which UBC would match any donations given. Dr. Piper said: “Today let us affirm the responsibility of a global university – one that values all human life; that uses knowledge and technology to tackle problems that affect people around the world; that promotes and supports humanitarian efforts to reduce the amount of human suffering, death and dislocation associated with disasters and inequities around the globe.”

So far, UBC students and staff have responded with donations of more than $250,000.

FEBRUARY 05: UBC swim teams, both men’s and women’s, capture their 8th consecutive Canadian University Championship this year – a Canadian record. Two of their swimmers qualify for the World Aquatic Championships in Montreal and nine qualify for the World University Games in Izmir, Turkey. Three coaches, Deb Huband, Kevin Hanson and Derrick Schoof, also represent UBC at the World University Games.

MARCH 05: College Days, College Nights, a six-hour, three-part film with UBC students in front of and behind the cameras, premieres of the Documentary Channel.

The documentary followed 16 UBC undergraduates through the 2003-04 academic year, charting everything from student achievements and romances to the emotional discord between student and immigrant parents; the stress of exams; and the struggles of those far from home.

The project was the brainchild of John Zaritsky, a well-known journalist and film producer who became an adjunct professor in the UBC Department of Theatre, Film and Creative Writing for this project.

The crew members were fourth-year film production students and they interned with Zaritsky’s company, Point Grey Pictures, for six UBC credits.

(continued on page 6)
Global citizens are willing to think beyond boundaries of place, identity and category, and recognize all human beings as their equals while respecting humanity’s inherent diversity. Within their own sphere of influence, global citizens seek to imagine and work towards a better world. 
– As defined by the UBC Okanagan Academic Planning Team, March 2005

The very notion of global citizenship is a challenge: it suggests big responsibilities in a small world. It commands optimism in the face of certain knowledge that the earth is vulnerable – environmentally, politically and socially.

But if it is difficult to define global citizenship, it’s sometimes easy to identify a global citizen, an exemplar. Dr. Brett Finlay, the UBC Peter Wall Distinguished Professor, set a personal goal earlier in his career “to work on something that would have potential benefits to humankind.” His success to date has set him among the best in the world, most recently attracting an US $8.7 million grant as part of the Grand Challenges in Global Health (GCGH).

Dr. Brett Finlay is a professor in the Michael Smith Laboratories and the departments of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, as well as in Microbiology and Immunology. The late Nobel Laureate Michael Smith personally recruited Dr. Finlay in 1989 and Dr. Smith deserves additional, posthumous recognition for his good judgment.

In the mid 1990s, Dr. Finlay led a team that was studying disease-causing bacteria such as Salmonella and E. coli. In 1997, the team identified the “protein harpoon” that E. coli uses to attach itself to cells in the intestine – a discovery that led to a cattle vaccine that will prevent meat contamination from pathogenic E. coli O157. The vaccine has been tested on thousands of animals across Canada and the US and shown to be effective. It is now undergoing licensing in these countries, and should go a long way toward preventing future contaminations such as the lethal outbreak at Walkerton, Ont.

Dr. Finlay’s next major project was as director of the BC government-funded SARS Accelerated Vaccine Initiative (SAVI), followed by his success in winning the GCGH grant to develop new medicines to boost the human body’s ability to fight infections such as malaria, typhoid fever, E. coli and tuberculosis – all of which have devastating effects in the developing world.

The grant is part of a $450 million initiative, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and operated through the US Foundation for the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Finlay was chosen from among 1,500 applicants in 75 countries and his was the largest grant of only three approved in Canada. He will lead a team from Oxford University; the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute and the University of London in the U.K.; The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research in Australia; France’s Institut Pasteur; and Stanford University School of Medicine and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the US.
AHEAD OF THE CURVE

Demand for access to quality post-secondary education has prompted the British Columbia government to allocate 25,000 new seats. UBC is doing its part, with 3,700 new students now enrolled at UBC Okanagan. Recognizing the high value of graduate education, UBC is planning to increase enrolment of master’s, doctoral and post-doctoral students to meet Canada’s needs in the global knowledge economy.

UBC's first Midwifery degree graduates celebrate at Spring Congregation

UBC puts permanent roots in Asia

May 05

UBC puts permanent roots in Asia with the opening in Hong Kong of the Asia Pacific Regional Office.

Although UBC has had an Alumni office in Hong Kong for four years, the Regional Office – the first such facility for any Canadian university – is intended to cement the already good relationships that UBC has in Asia.

“As Canada’s leading university in Asia Pacific issues, UBC has had partnerships in the region for decades,” says Dr. Ken McGillivray, Director of the Office of UBC International and Acting Associate Vice President, International.

“By establishing a permanent presence, we can strengthen these existing partnerships and foster new, dynamic academic, government, and private sector relationships.”

Seven UBC students become the first ever to receive Bachelor of Midwifery degrees at the Spring Congregation.

“It’s very exciting to birth our first graduating class,” says Elaine Carty, director of the program, which is part of the Faculty of Medicine’s Dept. of Family Practice.

B.C. now joins Ontario and Quebec in offering such a program. Midwives attend about 2,300 births in B.C. every year.

UBC receives about 100 applications annually for the class. About 80 per cent of applicants have previous degrees, in both arts and sciences. The graduating class ranges in age from mid-20s to mid-40s and includes single and married women, mothers and a grandmother.

June is a BLAST for UBC astronomer Mark Halpern, part of a team involved in building and launching the Balloon-borne Large Aperture Submillimetre Telescope.

The telescope set off from Sweden, dangling from a 33-storey balloon that carried it to the edge of space. There it drifted free of the obscurity of earth’s atmosphere, observing the cosmos for four days before being released by remote control and floating back to earth on a parachute.

Scientists hope the telescope will have gathered information that will help unravel the history of the universe.

This is the second June running that UBC has turned heads in the international astronomy community. In 2003, a Russian rocket launched the UBC-built Microvariability & Oscillations of Stars (MOST) telescope, a suitcase-sized instrument dubbed the “Humble” satellite for its diminutive proportions and its relatively small ($10 million) budget.

Recruiting Allies in a More Civil Society

From its earliest days, the overarching goal of the UBC Learning Exchange has always been to enhance civil society. The Exchange exists to build capacity, connection and community. It aspires to help both students and Learning Exchange inner city patrons become conscientious conspirators in pursuit of the common good – to help them fulfill their full potential as true global citizens.

Those being the aims, there can be few better exemplars than Marisol Petersen, a Master’s candidate in the UBC School of Community and Regional Planning, and a font of energy, optimism and goodwill at the Learning Exchange storefront in what has been called Canada’s poorest neighbourhood.

Inspired by a call from Learning Exchange Director Margo Fryer to incorporate the goals of global citizenship into her own studies, Petersen began a Community Service Learning project in 2004, looking for ways to make use of the energy and expertise of Learning Exchange patrons.

As a former teacher of English as a Second Language (ESL), Petersen soon realized the opportunity. The residents of the Downtown Eastside are overwhelmingly fluent in English, a skill that is enormously valuable to Vancouver’s large population of immigrants and refugees – many of whom are isolated by the language barrier and unable to afford expensive conversational English classes. Petersen designed a program in which Learning Exchange patrons could become facilitators in ESL conversation groups – a proposal that earned a Learning Exchange Chapman Summer Project award in the spring of 2004.

The pilot project was an immediate success, well staffed by eager patrons and oversubscribed by ESL participants. During the fall, Petersen prepared a proposal to take the program full time, which was made possible when HSBC Bank Canada and the Vancouver Foundation stepped forward with funding.

A final, perfect piece fell into place early this year when UBC’s English Language Institute agreed to provide instruction to the ESL facilitators. Four days a week, Downtown Eastside residents preside over ESL discussion groups, and one day a week they travel to UBC to improve their own skills. “We empower the facilitators by demonstrating that their knowledge and contribution is a value to society and we empower immigrants and refugees by giving them the opportunity to develop their English skills,” Petersen says.

On a personal level, Petersen says, “It’s been amazing. I have a real feeling of accomplishment, of having made a difference in people’s lives.” She is currently writing a Masters thesis based on her work.

The program has also helped show the true potential of the Learning Exchange, says Margo Fryer. It shows that UBC can do much more than deliver volunteer energy to the inner city. “We can play a role as a catalyst in the community, really helping to build a civil society.”
Three UBC students are named 2005 Trudeau Scholars for their research and leadership in environmental, global sustainability and law reform to protect children in non-traditional families.

David Boyd is a PhD candidate in UBC’s Resource Management and Environmental Studies program and author of Unnatural Resource Management and Environmental Rica, New Zealand, Jamaica and India. He is a pre-eminent expert on personality disorders.

Aliette Frank is a geography PhD candidate who has researched endangered mountain gorillas in Uganda and conducted other diverse field studies in Alaska, Costa Rica, New Zealand, Jamaica and India.

Fiona Kelly is a PhD candidate in law, who will look at advancing legal reforms to protect parents and children in lesbian and gay families.

Established by the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation in 2003, the scholarships are given to students who are expected to become national and international leaders and whose studies advance four areas: human rights and social justice, responsible citizenship, Canada and the world and humans and their natural environment.

UBC joins the ranks of Johns Hopkins University, the University of California San Diego and Indiana University, becoming the first Canadian post-secondary institution designated an IBM Life Sciences Institute of Innovation.

With the designation comes a cash and in-kind donation valued at $550,000 over three years to support bioinformatics research in areas such as human genetic disorders, heart disease, adverse drug reactions in children and prostate cancer.

IBM was already an established supporter of the UBC Bioinformatics Centre (UBIC), having recently supplied the centre with two IBM servers to support the high-performance computing requirements of their research. The new designation boosts IBM’s support to UBC to $1.5 million.

JULY 05 Five University of British Columbia faculty members are elected to the Royal Society of Canada for their outstanding achievement. The five include:

• Physicist Douglas Bonn, whose pioneering work in quasi particle dynamics has shed new light on superconductors;
• Sauder School of Business Professor Izak Benbasat, who specializes in the design of human-computer interfaces, especially for web-based business;
• Dean of Science John Hepburn, an expert on the interaction of laser light with atoms and molecules;
• Geneticist Philip Hieter, whose studies of cell division on the molecular level will lead to more effective cancer therapies; and
• Psychiatry professor John Livesley, Canada’s pre-eminent expert on personality disorders.

Physics and Astronomy Professor John Hepburn became a member of the Royal Society of Canada and, in October, UBC’s Vice-President, Research

Established in 1882, the Royal Society of Canada is Canada’s most prominent academy of scholars and scientists – including 160 faculty members from UBC.

The Institute for Computing, Information and Cognitive Systems (ICICS) and the UBC Computer Science Department team up to celebrate a $40 million building addition that will revolutionize research in animation, artificial intelligence and autonomous robotics technology, even as it doubles UBC’s capacity to train students in computer science, electrical, and computer engineering.

Even before the Computer Science component was added, the ICICS expansion was on the planning table, thanks to the biggest Canada Foundation for Innovation grant ever awarded in this category. When the B.C. government stepped up with new funding to Double the Opportunity in Electrical and Computer Engineering, both parties saw the potential for this huge and mutually beneficial collaboration.

SEPTEMBER 05 The old Faculty of Agricultural Sciences officially arises as the new Faculty of Land and Food Systems, a change that “exemplifies the diversity of our faculty in a world more concerned about the interconnectedness of our land, food, water, health and environment,” says Murray Isman, the faculty’s Dean pro tem.

The change in title, approved by Senate in February is also part of a larger international trend to tackle misperceptions associated with the word agriculture as being primarily farming-related.

UBC is the third agricultural faculty in Canada to achieve a similar change in image, and follows the lead of numerous schools in Australia and the United States. Pedagogical changes now include an increasing focus on student-centred learning and practical work experience, and the faculty is also transforming its role at the new UBC Okanagan campus with plans to expand its agroecology program to the school in the near future.

BETTER WAYS TO MOVE

Students at UBC’s Vancouver campus have led the way on sustainability by once again saying yes in a referendum to a universal transit pass (U-Pass). With some 1,800 new student residence spaces being built, and a goal for 50 per cent of new University Town residences to be occupied by people who work or study at UBC, the university is creating a more vibrant, and sustainable, community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Before U-Pass</th>
<th>After U-Pass</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single-occupant vehicles</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpools and vanpools</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transit</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycles</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-modal (SOV + carpool or transit)</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: TransLink

Reported Most-Often Used Modes of Travel by UBC Students
A Sustainable UBC – A Sustainable University Town

For the first nine years that he worked as a Research Associate at the UBC Centre for Conservation Research, Ralph Wells lived the fragmented life of a commuter, spending as much as three hours a day driving back and forth from his home in Coquitlam. Then, two years ago, Wells stepped out of his car and into the on-campus faculty and staff housing on Hawthorn Lane.

“I knew I’d like not commuting,” Wells says. “But the improvement in my quality of life went well beyond what I expected. It was just so nice to get all that time back.”

Even bigger benefits came in what Wells characterizes as an overall improvement in his quality of life. He runs and cycles in nearby Pacific Spirit Park. He works from home more often, confident that he can still get to a meeting quickly if something pops up. And best of all, he avoids the angst and chaos of the daily rush-hour drive. “I am,” he says, “a more relaxed person all around.”

It’s a perfect illustration of one of the goals of UBC Properties Trust in developing University Town’s mix of sustainable housing. UBC is working to ensure that more than 50 per cent of the 7,000 new residences planned for University Town will be targeted for people who work and study on campus. This will reduce the number of daily trips to and from campus (reducing the burden of traffic and air pollution on surrounding neighbourhoods), even as it builds a more sustainable and coherent work-study community at UBC – an intellectually vibrant social habitat. (And land lease revenues will contribute substantially to UBC’s endowment, thereby increasing student financial assistance and research opportunities.)

For his part, Wells is now making a permanent commitment to his new way of life. He has signed on as a “co-developer” of a new a sustainable housing project called Clement’s Green – also located in the Hawthorn neighbourhood.

UBC Properties designed the co-development system in order to make new campus housing more available and affordable to UBC faculty and staff. Under the system, prospective buyers take a role as developers, putting up equity for the project, while UBC Properties manages the project. This provides working capital and eliminates sales commissions and other expenses that can amount to up to 20 per cent of the cost of a new home.

Wells is the first to acknowledge that his new residence will still strain his budget – “There will be no money left over for a nice car.”

True, but now when he walks through the front door, he is closer to his Forest Science Centre office than he was in the lot where he used to park his car.
Mental Health gift largest in Canada
A generous donor, who wished to be identified only as a close friend of UBC, has contributed $10 million – the largest gift ever to mental health in Canada.

With a $10 million match from the provincial government, UBC is using the gift to establish the UBC Institute of Mental Health.

$15-million will be endowed to support three chairs in the fields of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Geriatric Psychiatry and Depression, and Psychotherapy. The $5 million balance, also endowed, will create fellowships, junior faculty positions, and help to foster greater collaboration and communication between basic and clinical researchers and mental health professionals throughout the province of British Columbia.

Alumni couple give $8 million to biodiversity
Ross Beaty, B.Sc., LLB, a 53-year-old geologist, mining entrepreneur and chairman of Pan American Silver Corp., and his wife, Trisha, B.Sc., M.D., have contributed $8 million toward a biodiversity project that is unique in Canada.

The Beaty Biodiversity Research Centre, a $50-million project that will include the Beaty Museum of Natural History, will house more than 30 UBC scientists in disciplines ranging from genomics to oceanography.

The five-storey, 12,600 sq.-metre centre is expected to open in November 2007.

Banking on international relations
More Canadian and Mexican students can forge international links thanks to a Scotiabank gift of $750,000 to UBC and The Monterrey Institute of Technology University System (Tec de Monterrey).

UBC and Tec de Monterrey established a Joint Academic Program in 2001 and in 2003 added a joint residence on the Point Grey campus to encourage students from both countries to travel and share their distinct cultures.

Scotiabank’s funding will help participating students pay tuition or living costs. About 100 Tec de Monterrey students are currently at UBC, while 20 UBC students are attending Tec de Monterrey.

Choquette backs “cultural fluency”
The Choquette Family Foundation has established the Choquette Family Foundation Global Student Mobility Award, to help make more students “culturally fluent.”

The Choquette Family Foundation will offer awards totaling $100,000, currently $10,000 each, for undergraduate or graduate UBC students participating in recognized student exchange programs in Quebec or elsewhere outside of Canada, excluding the United States of America.

The 10 inaugural recipients of the award have recently been chosen and the students have now departed for universities around the world.

Impact of UBC’s largest donation still growing
In 1998, Dr. Stewart and Mrs. Marilyn Blusson gave UBC the largest donation in its history: $50 million. That money has since been essential to the realization of 61 projects involving federal and/or provincial grants that were conditional upon UBC providing a contribution from non-government sources.

The Blusson contribution has thus facilitated projects totaling $292.3 million in value, including $108.8 million from the federal Canada Foundation for Innovation, $108.7 million from the BC Knowledge Development Fund and $31.8 million from other partners.

In the last year, the Blusson gift supported projects such as the Institute for Computing, Information, and Cognitive Systems, the Michael Smith Laboratories, and the Centre for Blood Research.

Ross and Tricia Beaty’s $8 million contribution to biodiversity is set to open in 2007

Chan family leads again
The Chan family has stepped forth yet again to support culture, the arts and UBC. In 1991, two brothers, Tom Chan and Caleb Chan, made a generous donation to UBC (matched by the provincial government) to create a signature building on the Point Grey campus, the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, and to establish the Chan Endowment Fund.

The Chan Shun Concert Hall within the Chan Centre was named in honour of their father, Chan Shun (1917 - 1997).

Now, the Chans have committed an additional $1 million toward the Chan Endowment Fund, bringing it to $5 million, halfway to its $10 million goal.

This Fund was established to support cultural and performing groups, including the UBC School of Music and the Department of Theatre, Film and Creative Writing.

SUPPORT FOR UBC INCREASING
A key strength of any university is its endowment, that fund from which investment income literally makes a world of difference. Endowment income supplies scholarships that level the playing field for promising students, and it supports research by leveraging government and other research investments into tomorrow’s discoveries. UBC alumni and other generous supporters are now seeing their gifts grow as revenue from property leases from the emerging University Town begins to enter the endowment.
Investing in a New Generation – a New UBC

In 1945, a high school dropout named Irving K. Barber got an unexpected leg up from the Canadian government. Having served nearly five years as a pilot in the RCAF, the young husband and father was facing a post-war return to his job as a “parts boy” in the Edmonton Caterpillar dealership. Instead, he took advantage of a government offer to go to university, to finish his high school and earn a degree. “I chose Forestry – because it looked easy and I didn’t have to take Physics 100 – and I came to UBC.

“It turned my thinking around.”

After a stunning career in the BC forest industry, culminating with the founding and development of Slocan Forest Products, Dr. Barber found that “I had accumulated some disposable income,” and during the last five years he has set about finding the most creative and most productive way to effect that disposal.

“During my career I worked in nearly every corner of the province, so I wanted to invest in things that provide a benefit to every corner of the province.

“My first gift was to the University of Northern British Columbia to establish an Enhanced Forest Products Laboratory, with the focus to grow trees faster and better in northern B.C.

“My second gift was to the University of British Columbia for diabetes research, which sparked the creation of the Ike Barber Islet Transplant Laboratory, where people with insulin deficiencies could receive insulin-producing islet cell transplants.

“The biggest gift came in response to (UBC President) Martha Piper’s suggestion that I make a contribution, together with the Provincial government, to the creation of a new Learning Centre located at UBC. I was happy to see that the Centre would reach out to all British Columbians and the world.

“At around the same time, I asked Martha what we were doing to make better citizens. We need to educate specialists, but we also need to be focusing on training and teaching people how to live with each other. And that’s what led to the contribution to the (Irving K. Barber) School of Arts and Sciences at UBC Okanagan as well as the Interface Program located at the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. We hope that by combining what are usually separate jurisdictions (Arts and Science) we might help to create better rounded students.”

The whole process of designing gifts and following up on their implementation (“It’s in my nature to take a hands-on approach.”) has provided Dr. Barber with something of a second career. It’s also given him a hand in a major reform in the nature of post-secondary education in BC.

“And does that give me satisfaction? The answer has to be, yes!”
Financial Highlights

Financial Highlights (in millions) 

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
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<td>Total revenue</td>
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<td>1,133.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating surplus for the year</td>
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<td>2.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accumulated operating surplus at end of year</td>
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Revenues (in thousands) 

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<td>Government grants &amp; contracts</td>
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<td>547,197</td>
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<td>Sales, services and other</td>
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<td>Student fees</td>
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<td>Non-government grants, contracts &amp; donations</td>
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<td>Investment income</td>
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<td>Total Revenues</td>
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Expenses (in thousands) 

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<td>Supplies and general expenses</td>
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<td>Depreciation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost of goods sold</td>
<td>41,795</td>
<td>43,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarships, fellowships and bursaries</td>
<td>52,907</td>
<td>41,947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and reimbursements to other agencies</td>
<td>54,559</td>
<td>15,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>1,241,144</td>
<td>1,131,589</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assets (in thousands) 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
<td>296,785</td>
<td>326,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>817,891</td>
<td>804,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, plant and equipment</td>
<td>1,430,968</td>
<td>1,210,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>2,545,644</td>
<td>2,341,934</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Liabilities & Net Assets (in thousands) 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current liabilities</td>
<td>125,236</td>
<td>113,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee future benefits</td>
<td>4,102</td>
<td>4,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred contributions</td>
<td>209,183</td>
<td>236,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred capital contributions</td>
<td>882,955</td>
<td>757,476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred land lease revenue</td>
<td>76,880</td>
<td>43,631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term debt</td>
<td>182,047</td>
<td>172,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets</td>
<td>1,063,241</td>
<td>1,014,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total liabilities and net assets</td>
<td>2,545,644</td>
<td>2,341,934</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REVENUES – 1995 TO DATE

UBC has become a more than $1 billion operation, reflecting the tremendous growth of student enrolment and government-supported research that has occurred in the past decade.
Social Highlights

UBC recognizes the importance of setting an example for social sustainability. It is committed to growing its contributions to local communities, support for students, and progressive policies for faculty and staff.

Community

Through the UBC Learning Exchange, 800 students gave assistance in 36 community organizations, including 17 schools and 19 non-profit organizations in the Downtown Eastside. In addition to the large portion that is purely volunteer work, there are now Community Service Learning options in 13 separate courses, offering academic credit for work conducted in the community.

The Learning Exchange has also begun to attract faculty, staff and alumni participation in community events. These include such things as volunteer building projects in inner city schools: for example, 30 volunteers from the UBC Finance Department participated in a project at Laura Secord School. Other events include a series of public lectures and concerts conducted by students and faculty at the Vancouver Public Library.

Approximately 50 inner city residents drop in daily at the Learning Exchange’s Main Street storefront, some taking advantage of computer workshops and ESL programs supported by HSBC Bank Canada.

UBC students also served the community through independent organizations like the Law Students Legal Advice Program. Between September 2004 and April 2005, 249 UBC law student volunteers spent 2,779 hours giving free legal advice and representation to 1,093 clients. During the summer, when some students are also employed full-time, 30 students (volunteers and employees) spent 4,142 hours giving free legal advice and representation to 1,818 clients.

The UBC Law School also has two Community Service Learning projects through which students can earn academic credit for delivering free legal services in the community. These include the Criminal Clinic and the First Nations Legal Clinic. In the latter, six students per term offer legal assistance to more than a thousand low income First Nations people per year, as well as offering assistance to and advocacy for First Nations band councils throughout the province.

In the newly renamed Faculty of Land and Food Systems (formerly the Faculty of Agriculture), the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems at UBC Farm continues its community outreach and involvement through such things as: education programs for school-age and university students; weekly summer market gardens; and involvement with community groups such as the artist in residence program and a traditional Mayan Food garden built with members of the Vancouver Mayan community.

Land and Food Systems is also leading the 10-year UBC Avian Research program, using a $1.5 million contribution from the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands to conduct community-based research in the Fraser Valley on issues including economics and marketing, breeding stock, biology and genetics, environment, production management, food science, bio-security and disease impacts and control.
Environmental Highlights

In 1997, UBC became Canada’s first university to adopt a sustainable development policy. It opened the Campus Sustainability Office in 1998 and has since made significant progress in reducing its environmental impact. In 2003, UBC became Canada’s first and only university to receive Green Campus Recognition from the US-based National Wildlife Federation. In 2004, UBC demonstrated leadership by purchasing enough Green Power Certificates from BC Hydro to power UBC’s world renowned green buildings.

Reducing Resource Use
• Despite a 24 per cent increase in student population since 1998, UBC has reduced building energy use by 10 per cent, for annual savings of $2.5 million in 2004-05 and enough energy to meet the heating and electricity needs of 1,700 homes.
• Water use has been reduced by 32 per cent from 1998 levels, saving more than 1.7 billion litres in 2004-05; this is enough water to supply 14,700 Vancouver residents for one year.
• UBC has reduced its per capita consumption of paper by 31 per cent since 1998, and overall use of recycled paper has increased by 21 per cent.

Reducing Environmental Impact
• UBC has reduced CO₂ emissions from buildings and transportation by nine per cent from 1998 levels, saving 12,300 tonnes last year alone.
• Upgrades to the central steam boilers lowered NO₂ emissions by 85 per cent and reduced natural gas use by 3 per cent, enough to heat 650 homes for a year.
• UBC Waste Management diverted 46 per cent, or 2,490 tonnes, of material to recycling or composting last year. UBC is the first and only university to launch an “in vessel” composting system for organic wastes.
• Transit ridership has increased 163 per cent since 1998, due in large part to the popular U-Pass program, and single occupancy vehicle traffic decreased by 20 per cent.

Improving Eco-efficiency
• Last year, 130 volunteer sustainability coordinators in units across UBC undertook more than 250 sustainability initiatives from the UBC sustainability toolkit designed to foster more sustainable behaviours; and saved the university $75,000 in electricity.
• In 2004/05, UBC’s Innovative Social, Ecological, Economic Development Studies (SEEDS) program attracted 350 students, faculty and staff to various research projects, saving $60,000 in energy and other costs.

Academic Leadership
• UBC researchers such as Dr. Daniel Pauly, who studies diminishing international fish stocks, and Dr. William Rees, who has developed the influential Ecological Footprint analysis of environmental load, are international leaders in their fields.
• Prof. Larry Frank’s analysis of obesity and suburban lifestyles has been widely discussed, and Dr. Patrick Condon’s views on the way we build cities are highly sought.
• UBC Architecture Prof. Ray Cole developed the Residential Environmental Assessment Program (REAP), a new building rating standard for residential construction that encourages innovative heating systems, local materials, and high-efficiency appliances to minimize energy and water consumption and decrease waste production.