



Newsletter | Spring 2025

From the Principal

It is a lovely time of the year with the increasing number of daylight hours, the beautiful blossoms, and the days getting warmer. It also has been an active time of the year for the Emeritus College, with the Grand Opening of our new space, Giving Day, and planning for our next Retreat.

The Grand Opening of the new space for the Emeritus College was held on April 7 and was a grand affair. About 100 people attended the reception held outside our offices on the fourth floor at Brock Commons South. The place was humming with conversation as new friendships were formed and old ones rekindled.

The more formal part of the celebration was held on the ground floor, in the lecture theatre. Speeches by Gage Averill, Provost, Steve Tredwell, Past Principal, and Janice Stewart, Deputy Provost paid tribute to the College's significance to UBC, and to the values displayed in the magnificent carved artwork by Indigenous artist, Brent Sparrow, located in the office. Plans for the event were developed by a committee of members and were expertly executed by our four staff members.

Giving Day this year for the Emeritus College was a great success with over forty-six thousand dollars raised for the College. We appreciate the efforts of all members who participated in this endeavour.

Work is underway planning for our retreat which will focus on a three-year plan, as did the last one. This exercise allows us to examine our goals from the previous plan, and expand upon those, or set new ones.

My term as Principal will end on June 30th and Sandra Bressler will succeed me. I wish Sandra every success and know that the College will be in very good hands.

From the Newsletter Editor

As we await the arrival of real summer, I hope you enjoy the last issue of the EC newsletter for the academic year. This issue showcases the recent Grand Opening of the Emeritus College space in Brock Commons South, a happy and celebratory event, to be sure! We feature interviews with winners of the two annual EC awards and recognize the four emeriti who have been nominated for King Charles III medals for their outstanding community work. Susan Barr takes on a different kind of scholarly activity in retirement, by returning to university in a completely different field than she spent her career! With the deadline for application to the



Bill McCutcheon,
Principal 2024-2025,
UBC Emeritus College,
Professor Emeritus,
Physics and Astronomy

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Above: Emeritus College Grand Opening on April 7, 2025.

Scholarly subsidy fund coming up in July, we have descriptions by Mandakranta Bose and Catherine Soussloff of their scholarly work that was supported by the fund last year.

The Special Interest Groups have been active: Katherine Sirluck provides a review of *James* by Percival Everett that the Groves of Academe read this spring, and Helen Wilkes takes us on a volunteering journey to Kyrgyzstan, a place that few of us will ever visit.

As an excellent example, the Geography department remembers and incorporates emeriti into their department and the university by hosting a luncheon with new faculty members and staff. Judy Hall reminds us to be wary of SCAMS, and I give you an inside look at working for the federal election.

While travelling over the summer, please think of issues that you would like to address in this newsletter, and/or at least, take lots of pictures that could be used for a presentation to the Travel SIG! Send anything of interest to myself or Sarah.



Valerie A. White,
Newsletter Editor,
Professor Emeritus, Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine

From the EC office

SUBSIDY FOR SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

The application period for the UBC Emeritus College Subsidy for Scholarly Activities is now open. The College seeks to assist in fostering, promoting, and disseminating the scholarly activities/academic pursuits of retired faculty, consonant with the

University's mission, by disbursing funds provided for this purpose by the University, on the initiative of the President.

Deadline to submit applications July 17, 2025. For more information on eligibility [please visit our website.](#)

WALK FOR JOY

The Emeritus College participated in another great year with the UBC Faculty of Education's, Walk For Joy. This year the College helmed two teams, *the Ambling Academics* and *the Stroll Patrol*, and found all nine Hidden Gem challenges on the UBC Point Grey Campus. In addition to this, two team members were inducted into the auspicious Million Steppers Club: **Susan Barr**, Professor Emeritus of Food, Nutrition and Health with 1,694,332 steps, and **Suzanne Campbell**, Professor Emeritus of Nursing with 1,038,843 steps over the nine-week program!

GRAND OPENING EVENT | APRIL 7, 2025

Submitted by Sandra Bressler, Vice-Principal, Clinical Associate Professor Emeritus, Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy

The Emeritus College Grand Opening Event was held on Monday, April 7th to celebrate our new "home" in Brock Commons South. It was an exciting and meaningful event with over 100 emeriti attending.

The afternoon began with a tour of the office space and an opportunity for members to socialize with one another, re-connecting with old friends and meeting



Above: Members of the Emeritus College Walk For Joy Team at the final Hidden Gem location in front of the Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences building. From left to right: William McCutcheon, Paul Harrison, Lynn Warburton, Sarah Close Humayun, Sandra Bressler, Sandra van Ark and Queenie Law.

new emeriti. We also had an opportunity to view the extraordinary carving by Musqueam artist Brent Sparrow Jr. recently installed in the office boardroom.

The group then moved to the lecture hall on the first floor of the building to hear the land acknowledgement and words from Bill McCutcheon, Principal of the Emeritus College, Gage Averill, Provost and Vice-President Academic, Steve Tredwell, Past Principal of the College and Janice Stewart, Deputy Provost.

Each spoke about the vision to establish an Emeritus College initiated in 2018 by President Santa Ono and how that has taken place with the efforts of many.

They all recognized that the Grand Opening was a chance to reflect on, support and promote lifelong learning, research, special interests, community engagement and outreach activities by our emeriti.

The Emeritus College is unique in Canada! We are leaders in advancing the extraordinary talent of our members and making meaningful contributions to UBC.

This was a very special milestone for the College!

EAGLE & THUNDERBIRD WITH MOON & SALMON

yəχwəle? ʔi? stʰinkwə? ʔi? ɬqelc ʔi? sce:ɬtən

yəχwəle? ʔi? stʰinkwə? ʔi? ɬqelc ʔi? sce:ɬtən,
wə χtəkwtəm ʔə ʔ Brent Sparrow, təli ʔə ʔ
xmwəθkwəyəm. ʔi spɬiqɬtəl tə hənqəmihənqən
ʔi? tə xwəlməxwəqən.

ʔə tə ʔxwəqeləwəns tə xmwəθkwəyəm məsteyəxw
ʔi? ʔəw tə Emeritus Professoriate ʔə ʔ UBC.

ni? χəfə tə Brent Sparrow: “wə xwixwəqem ʔi?
wə səseʔəɬcəm tə yəχwəle?, tə sce:ɬtən, ʔi? tə
stʰinkwə? ʔə. ʔə ʔxwəcicəɬ kʷθə ʔxwəqeləwən ct.”

wə ʔxwixwəw tə sce:ɬtən ʔi? tə ɬqelc ʔi ʔə tə nā
sya:ys.

xwəniwən ct ʔə tə sce:ɬtən kʷ s ʔas wə xwsiya:ys
ʔi? wə yaθ wə sti:ɬn ʔəl.

wə xaʔəmətalxw tə ɬqelc. xwɬaləməstəxw ʔi? təwəl
tə θeʔt snət.

ni? ʔə tə ʔəθ ʔi?ikwə? wə ni? tə yəχwəle?, ni? ʔə tə
ʔəθ ʔəyiwəs wə ni? tə stʰinkwə?.

wə kʷəcnəxwəs tə yəχwəle? kʷθə məkw stem.
ʔəw kʷamkwəɬn ʔəl ʔi? wə scəwətəwəs.

xwəqelcɬcət tə stʰinkwə? tə məsteyəxw ʔi? tə
sce:ɬtən. wə nān ʔəw kʷamkwəɬn tə stʰinkwə?.

seʔcsəm ct ni? ʔə ʔ Brent Sparrow. ɬəyəθamə ct
kʷəθ yaʔəs ʔi? təθ ʔi? ʔə tə nā sɬtəkʷ.

Eagle & Thunderbird with Moon & Salmon, crafted
in diptych format was carved by Brent Sparrow,
Coast Salish, (Musqueam)

This carving symbolizes the shared values of
the Musqueam People and those of the Emeritus
Professoriate of the University of British
Columbia.

In Brent Sparrow's words: “Eagles, salmon and
thunderbirds, together, are uplifting and inspiring:
symbols of protection and enlightenment.”

Centred and thematically shared by both panels
are Salmon and Moon.

Salmon symbolize instinct, determination,
and persistence.

Moon is a spirit guide seen as a protector and
guardian. Because Moon controls tidal change
and illuminates the dark sky, it is also seen
as a force for change.

The left panel of the diptych features Eagle,
the right panel Thunderbird.

Eagle is a symbol of prestige, power, peace,
wisdom and friendship and claims a place of both
honour and high stature.

Thunderbird is a protector of people and salmon
and is associated with power and leadership.

We raise our hands in thanks and respect to Brent
Sparrow, Musqueam artist, for the Indigenous
values symbolized in this carving.



Above: Plaque describing the new artwork in the Emeritis College Office in Hənqəmihənqən and English. Right: yəχwəle? ʔi? stʰinkwə? ʔi? ɬqelc ʔi? sce:ɬtən (*Eagle & Thunderbird with Moon & Salmon*) photo by Roy Saunders, convenor of the Emeritus College Photo Group.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Robert Armstrong, Professor Emeritus, Paediatrics

UBC GIVING DAY DONORS SUPPORT THE EMERITUS COLLEGE

Thanks to the 86 donors who contributed to the College during the UBC Annual Giving Day. Through your support and the \$50,000 gift from the Thelma Cook estate we have met our strategic goal of raising \$100,000. We are especially pleased to have received two anonymous donations of \$10,000 with the first able to be matched by other individual donations and the additional donation adding greatly to our final total. The Executive has assigned the Thelma Cook contribution to the College Endowment Fund, which is now at a total of \$304,937 and generating interest of approximately \$11,000 per year. The remaining funds will support the operating activities of the College.

As you are aware, the College receives core funds from the university, but it relies on financial support from its members to deliver the programs of the College. Our goal is to increase the overall donor participation rate. With 1,919 members of the College and over 500 participating in the activities of the College, we would like to see the whole community contributing to the success of the College.

The UBC Giving Day provides an opportunity to focus on the College needs, but members can decide to give at any time. If you can give, we encourage you to consider your annual commitment split monthly, it's easy to do on [the website](#).

In June of this year, we will be setting new goals for development and welcome feedback from the membership on how best to achieve membership engagement as donors. We have had some good feedback on the Annual Giving Day and will take this into account as we set the next goals and strategies for achieving this.

Thank you!



Above: Muhammad Iqbal at the 3/4 Mark of the Grouse Grind on his 90th birthday.

Honours & Awards

EMERITUS COLLEGE AWARDS

Wendy Hall, (see interview on page 6)
Professor Emeritus, Nursing
2025 President's Award for Distinguished Service
by UBC Emeriti

Muhammad Iqbal,
Professor Emeritus, Mechanical Engineering
2025 President's Award for Distinguished Service
by UBC Emeriti

Charles Krebs, (see interview on page 7)
Professor Emeritus, Zoology
UBC Emeritus College Award for Excellence in
Innovative and Creative Endeavours



Above: Nasir Jetha, Clinical Professor Emeritus, Pediatrics, receiving the King Charles III Coronation Medal from The Honourable Mobina S.B Jaffer, K.C. Senator for British Columbia



KING CHARLES III CORONATION MEDAL RECIPIENTS

Deborah Buszard

Professor Emerita, Biology, IK Barber Faculty of Science
King Charles III Coronation Medal
nominated by Frank Caputo, MP,
Kamloops-Thompson-Cariboo

Allen C. Eaves

Professor Emeritus, Medicine and Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine, Faculty of Medicine
King Charles III Coronation Medal
nominated by David Eby, KC,
Premier of British Columbia

Nasir Jetha

Clinical Professor Emeritus, Pediatrics,
Faculty of Medicine
King Charles III Coronation Medal
nominated by The Honourable Mobina S.B Jaffer, K.C.
Senator for British Columbia

Marvin Westwood

Professor Emeritus, Educational and Counselling
Psychology and Special Education, Faculty of Education
King Charles III Coronation Medal
nominated by True Patriot Love Foundation

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for this honour, a person must:

- have made a significant contribution to Canada or to a particular province, territory, region of, or community in, Canada, or attained an outstanding achievement abroad that brings credit to Canada; and
- have been alive on May 6, 2023, the date of The King's Coronation.

KING CHARLES III CORONATION MEDAL

The Coronation Medal was created to mark the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III, which took place on May 6, 2023. It is the first Canadian commemorative medal to mark a coronation.

The Office of the Secretary to the Governor General was responsible for administering the King Charles III Coronation Medal program. The medal will be awarded to 30 000 deserving individuals.

Partner organizations nominated and presented medals to individuals who met the medal's eligibility criteria. The list of partners was developed by the Government of Canada. Nominations from the general public were not accepted.

See the list of [nominating partner organizations](#).

See the [order in council authorizing the issuance of letters patent](#) for the King Charles III Coronation Medal.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MEDAL

The Canadian Heraldic Authority designed the medal, which was approved by The King. The medal was manufactured by the Royal Canadian Mint. The Coronation Medal is the first Canadian honour to feature the Canadian Royal Crown approved by His Majesty, The King, as part of its design.

The front side of the medal features a crowned image of His Majesty King Charles III wearing coronation robes. Around the effigy appears the text, "CHARLES III DEI GRATIA REX" (Charles III, by the Grace of God, the King) and "CANADA." The reverse of the medal portrays the Royal Cypher (the monogram surmounted by the Canadian Royal Crown), over the sunburst design of the Canadian Coronation emblem.

The date of the Coronation is inscribed on the left side of the medal. "VIVAT REX," meaning "long live The King," is inscribed on the right side. The medal is attached to a ribbon using an arrangement of dark blue, bright red and white, identical to the United Kingdom's Coronation Medal ribbon.

[See full unmodified description.](#)

Interview with an Award Winner

Wendy Hall, Professor Emeritus, Nursing
2025 President's Award for Distinguished Service

What is the award given for generally?

The UBC Emeritus College presents the President's Award for Distinguished Service annually to Emeriti who have, since attaining UBC Emeritus status, displayed exceptional leadership in volunteer community services.

For what work did you specifically receive the award?

I believe I received the award for my ongoing community-based volunteer activities, including my scholarly work. I have been an active Emeritus College member through contributing to seminars and regular participation in Council meetings and priority setting. I used Tri-Council funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) to respond to the need for better parenting supports designed with and for an Indigenous community. This project resulted in an elder-led offline app that used the theoretical perspective of two-eyed seeing. In part, the app used content from the SmartParent app that I developed as a co-lead during my retirement. I have used media engagement to promote the critical contributions of sleep to people's health and wellbeing and strategies to promote healthy sleep (e.g., 57 radio and TV interviews in the past 5 years). I continue to provide pro bono infant sleep consultations to families. I have also provided health authorities, public health associations, and healthcare professionals with professional development training for topics ranging from managing behavioural sleep problems to supporting early postpartum families with sleep.

How does that relate to your work in general?

My efforts have been totally integrated with my commitment to enhancing parenting competence and confidence and children's healthy development.

What part of your work are you most proud of?

Tough question. My ongoing commitment to building capacity in nurses and families to promote healthy sleep. A quote from a parent serves as an example: "This has changed our lives and enriched the parenting experience significantly! The benefit to him has been very



Above: Wendy Hall sewing a border on a quilt she made for a residential school survivor

noticeable. He's happier, less fussy and just seems more rested and well adjusted. We're all enjoying ourselves much more now in every aspect of life! I am forever grateful for your consultation."

Are you continuing with the work as an emeritus professor?

The activities I described have been since retirement. I am also doing research about perinatal loss and childcare sleep policy. I just received materials from Public Health Nursing Practice, Research and Education Program in Ontario expressing their thanks for sharing my expertise, and support as the group navigated the complex topic of healthy infant sleep.

What advice do you have for upcoming members in the field?

Engage in scholarly work to develop and use evidence to support nurses' activities on the frontlines of supporting families, and to support the families themselves.

What has been the highlight of your retirement so far?

Being recognized by my nursing colleagues with admission to the Canadian Academy of Nursing Fellowship Program which recognizes and celebrates the most accomplished nurses in Canada and across all domains of nursing practice. In 2019 I received the Dean's Medal of Distinction, Faculty of Applied Science, UBC.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to quilt, sing, do yoga, garden, walk, and travel.

Interview with an Award Winner

Charles J. Krebs, Professor Emeritus, Zoology
2025 Emeritus College Award for Excellence in
Innovative and Creative Endeavours

What is the award given for generally?

Achievements made after retirement; in my case after 2001.

For what work did you specifically receive the award?

From 2001 to 2006 I was a Visiting Research Fellow at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization of Australia (CSIRO Division of Wildlife Research, Australia) where I worked with the Rodent Ecology Group on understanding and managing house mouse outbreaks in the grain-growing regions of southeastern Australia.

From 2007 to 2020 at the University of Canberra, Institute for Applied Ecology, in collaboration with CSIRO ecologists, I carried out further rodent research on rice field rat control in Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, The Philippines, and China, along with giving lectures at sites in these countries about ecological principles.

At the International Rice Research Institute (Philippines) I delivered a course, teaching in population and community ecology, with scientists and students from India and all the countries of East Asia over 4 years.

I have had research consultations with scientists at the Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, and lectured at Chinese Academy conferences. I was awarded a Visiting Professorship in the Chinese Academy of Sciences for these contributions.

I have lectured at International Rodent Research Conferences in Australia, China (twice), Germany and South Africa during their meetings from 1998 to 2020.

I have participated in Yukon Kluane Lake Community Dynamics research where I continued working in summer months with colleagues on population and community dynamics of vertebrates in the Kluane Boreal Forest, continuing the monitoring and experimentation begun in 1973 and continuing at the present time in collaboration with colleagues from six Canadian universities and many undergraduate and graduate students.

Since 2013 I have published 225 blogs on ecological research, available through my UBC Zoology web page. I have provided extensive reviewing of manuscripts, as

well as student theses and publications. I have published 180 scientific papers since 2001 and 5 books on ecology and rodent biology.

How does that relate to your work in general?

All of the above is a continuation of my research that I carried out while I was employed at UBC.

What part of your work are you most proud of?

My work at the University of Canberra, Institute for Applied Ecology. See above.

Are you continuing with the work as an emeritus professor?

I continue writing a blog, reviewing scientific papers for ecological journals and lecturing on Zoom.

What advice do you have for members in the field?

Continue to advocate and work for conservation and for the poor of this world.

What has been the highlight of your retirement so far?

Having good health which enables me to continue work in the field of ecology.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

My spare time is now devoted to gardening of flowers and vegetables at our property on Vancouver Island.



Above: Charles Krebs working in the field in the Yukon.

Scholarly Activities of Members in Retirement

REFLECTIONS ON LIFE AS AN UNDERGRAD THE SECOND TIME AROUND

Susan Barr, Professor Emerita,
Food, Nutrition and Health

I have always dreamed of developing some degree of competence in French, and that desire became even stronger after 1999, when I did my first cycling vacation in France and wanted to be able to communicate beyond saying “bonjour”, “s’il vous plaît” and “merci”. At that time, however, being a full-time faculty member took virtually all my time and energy, so my efforts were limited to reading cereal box labels in French, which (needless to say) was not particularly effective. However, after retiring and turning 65, things changed. I had some free time, and I was eligible to enroll in university courses – for free! So, 48 years after acquiring my UBC student number as an undergrad, I began my “French learning adventure” by enrolling in French courses as an unclassified student. I chose to register as an auditor, although I do try to participate fully and complete all the assignments, tests, projects, etc. It’s been an outstanding experience, and one I’d highly recommend.

However, it hasn’t been easy. I’ve had to modify my approach to learning: As a high school student, I had a good memory, and it was easy to do well simply by memorizing what was covered in class. But as I went through undergraduate and graduate studies, I consciously changed from “memorizing answers” to trying to understand concepts and to posing questions: “What would happen if...?”; “How does that connect with...?”; “Why is...?”. So, it was a shock to realize that languages don’t always make sense or follow rules. In some cases, there may be no apparent rationale (for example, why a French noun is masculine or feminine). In others, there may be a ‘convention’ (for example, that adjectives come after nouns), but there is invariably a long list of exceptions (if the adjective is describing beauty, age, number, ‘goodness’ and size, it precedes the noun). Searching for a logical explanation is almost always non-productive; the answer is invariably “That’s just how it is.” So as a learner, you simply must memorize – which,



Above: Susan on one of her many bike trips to France

for me, is proving to be much more of a challenge than it was 50 or more years ago!

The experience has reminded me of the joys (and occasional frustrations) of being a student. Almost all my professors have been outstanding – they have been supportive, encouraging, non-judgmental and accessible, and many of them have incorporated techniques and strategies that I would definitely include if I ever returned to teaching. It’s also been a pleasure to interact with the students, many of whom have been interested in why I was in their class (I have been the only “senior citizen” in all my courses to date).

At this point, I’ve completed 11 courses, which would have met the requirements for a minor in French had I been enrolled for credit and working towards a second undergrad degree. They’ve included six communication courses (which focused on reading, writing, speaking and listening), an introduction to French literature, a course on “travel and colonial literature” (which included literature dating back to the 1500s – it was almost a different language), and courses on grammar, linguistics and translation. My primary goal has been to be able to communicate, and I’ve completed all the available courses with that focus. However, the other courses have been surprisingly interesting and have made me aware of aspects of language that I’d never thought about

before – including how languages evolve over time, and sociocultural aspects of linguistics. I’m nowhere near fluent – and I realize that, short of moving to France, that is probably an unattainable goal. Nevertheless, I can more-or-less function when travelling in France and I can converse with patient Francophones who reduce their words-per-minute by about 50% (and tell me “Vous parlez très bien le français!” – which almost makes me laugh out loud...). Perhaps most importantly, I am having fun!

If you’re interested in coming back to UBC as a student, here’s where to find some information: [Non-Degree Studies for unclassified students](#) | [Student Services](#)

Emeritus College Subsidy Reports

The UBC Emeritus College seeks to assist in fostering, promoting, and disseminating the scholarly activities or academic pursuits of retired faculty, by disbursing funds provided for this purpose. Below are two reports from Subsidy recipients from the 2024-2025 academic year.

Deadline to apply for a scholarly subsidy is July 17, 2025. Visit the [Emeritus College website](#) for more information.

FOUCAULT CONFERENCE IN ONTARIO

Catherine Soussloff, Professor Emerita, Art History, Visual Art & Theory

I used my subsidy from the EC to organize and chair the conference *Foucault: Art, Histories and Visuality in the 21st Century* at the Ontario College of Art and Design University, Toronto) in association with Assistant Professor Anton Lee (Ph.D UBC), Nova Scotia College of Art and Design University on May 29-30, 2024. The thought and criticism of the French philosopher Michel Foucault (1926-1984) has had a lasting impact over the forty years since his death. *The World Congress – Foucault: 40 Years After* sponsored academic events worldwide concerning the legacy of Foucault’s philosophy. Known for his theories regarding the critique of power, social institutions, language, sexuality and political thought, the conference in Toronto attracted a multi-disciplinary group of scholars and artists who reassessed Michel Foucault’s legacy in the fields of art research and

**MAY 29 & 30 2024 / OCAD UNIVERSITY - RHA 420
205 Richmond St. West, Toronto ON M5V 1V3**

PRESENTATIONS BY
ANDREW GAYED OCAD University
JOHN GREYSON York University
LOUIS KAPLAN University of Toronto
MICHAEL KELLY University of North Carolina at Charlotte
STEVEN MAYNARD Queen’s University
MELEKO MOKGOSI Yale University
GABRIELLE MOSER York University
+ CHARLES MARCO DIOKNO MANZO + JEFFREY NEWBERRY
TITILOPE ONOLAJA University of British Columbia
SHARON SLIWINSKI Western University
T’AI SMITH University of British Columbia
CATHERINE M. SOUSSLOFF University of British Columbia & UC Santa Cruz
DOT TUER OCAD University + **ANDY FABO**
HENTYLE YAPP UC San Diego

ORGANIZED BY
ANTON LEE NSCAD University
CATHERINE M. SOUSSLOFF University of British Columbia & UC Santa Cruz
 WITH
CHARLES REEVE OCAD University

A symposium on Michel Foucault's
 legacy in the visual arts,
 national culture, and the humanities
 - 40 years after his death

FOUCAULT: ART, HISTORIES, and VISUALITY in the 21st CENTURY



Above: Conference poster for *Foucault: Art, Histories and Visuality in the 21st Century*.

creation, particularly in regard to decolonization and race, sexuality and community, post-truth, artificial intelligence and contemporary subjectivities. The conference explored how Foucault’s thinking—ultimately concerned with human existence in a time of crisis—emerged from, and contributes to, the visual arts and an “aesthetics of existence”, aspects of his philosophy concerned with a mode of living.

Soussloff’s research contribution to the conference consisted of a paper entitled “To Be an Artist, according to Michel Foucault.” She argued that while Foucault recognized art as being always in relation to “the artist,” the philosopher’s major interest lies in a figuration of the artist tied to artistic freedom and political liberty. Soussloff defined Foucault’s figuration of the artist in relation to Nietzsche’s philosophy, and the figure of the artist as central to a concept of truth. The convenors are preparing the conference results for publication in a university press book.

RĀMĀYANA IN OXFORD

Mandakranta Bose, Assistant Professor Emerita,
Institute of Asian Research

Aided by a subsidy from the UBC Emeritus College, I worked in Oxford from May to June 2024 on a little studied mode of the transmission of the *Rāmāyana*, one of the two great ancient epics of India. This is a hybrid form of transmission found mainly in India's eastern state of West Bengal in rural areas and is a composite form made up of paintings and narration known as *pata* performances by village artists. In these performances, the performer—the painter/narrator—holds up a scroll bearing a series of roughly 14x10 cm paintings of scenes depicting one of the many major episodes of the epic and at the same time sings an oral description of the subject while offering brief comments on its meaning. Different scrolls portray different episodes. The entire performance thus functions as an evolving show-and-tell narrative much like a graphic novel but of greater flexibility in that the performer can—and usually does—make slight alterations to the narrative and to its import in response to spectator reaction at each performance.

My work in Oxford focused on the dynamic between the verbal and visual presentation of the story in an attempt to understand how a mode of public



Above: A panel from a scroll used in a *pata* showing Rāma and Sītā in their forest hut guarded by brother Laksmana



Above: Mandakranta Bose (second from right, seated) with colleagues at the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies

entertainment facilitates public awareness of the ideology of a long-established religious narrative even as it invites public scrutiny of some key ethical elements, such as the infallibility of rulers, family and clan loyalty, and gender inequity. It is a subject that I also addressed in a lecture at the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies (OCHS) in June 2024, illustrated with a slide show of the paintings, which led to animated discussions, expanding my own ideas profitably.

It was also during this visit that OCHS published and launched my book, *Women in the Hindu World*. Tracing the shifting understanding of femininity in Hindu religious culture from antiquity to the present, in this book I critically examine the roles of womanhood in Hindu society, noting especially how the faith has shaped women's spiritual and social life. This book follows my earlier book in the field, *Women in the Hindu Tradition: Rules, Roles and Exceptions* (London & New York: Routledge, 2010).

For supporting my work in Oxford, I am indebted to the Emeritus College at UBC for a generous subsidy.

Subsidy Applications Open!

The deadline to submit a subsidy application is July 17, 2025. More details on the [Emeritus College website](#).



Above: A perfect day for a bike ride! Easy Riders Group under brilliant blue skies, May 6.

News from the Special Interest Groups

EASY RIDERS

Graeme Wynn, Convenor, Professor Emeritus, Geography

The Easy Rider season got underway on May 6th with a lively dozen showing up for a ride starting in Point Grey and encompassing False Creek, Coal Harbour and Stanley Park. Further rides are tentatively planned for approximately every three weeks to take place during the weeks of May 25, June 15, July 6, July 27, August 17 and September 7, depending on weather, of course!

Please contact convenor Graeme Wynn wynn@geog.ubc.ca if you are interested in joining the group on upcoming rides.

POETIC ODYSSEYS GROUP

Philip Resnick, Convenor, Professor Emeritus, Political Science

The Poetic Odyssey group continues to hold two online Zoom meetings each term. Its members regularly exchange poems with one another, contribute poems to the Emeritus Newsletter and have published poems elsewhere.

POEM SUBMITTED BY **SANDRA BRUNEAU**

Philosopher Café

With the invitation came possibilities:
before I became a student of thought,
joining others to explore the explored,
the half-known, the semi-mysterious,
discovered in pointed talk, tough dialectic.

It might be *gruppendenken*, groupthink,
from which I'd excuse myself - were
independence imperilled - but I looked
for the sharp edges of inquiry where
agreements might cut before they healed.

Remembering Plato, I'd travel freely with
scholars, seniors, students, philosophers.

Russell wanted collective challenges to probe
biases, promote nuance, take critical thinking
to hammer vague theory, mistaken "facts."

He'd pull away from over-complicated
thought, piling up old myths for burial,
forcing unexpressed agreement to the test.

At Tapestry in Wesbrook Village, or at SFU
Downtown, or at Le Centre Culturel Franco-
phone, I'd look for social-philosophical
experience, asking probing questions:

*climate-friendly living,
alternative transportation,
'who are we?' and 'who are they?'*

A village wouldn't be a village
without an organized *kaffeeklatsch* -
teatime chatter about nagging problems
sans nagging or papers to grade.

The invitation, the coffee, the thought, the
pleasure and pain of hard talk...

...with frequent revelation.



Above: Photo of sagebrush buttercups by the Okanagan Outdoor Activities Group on their April 2 hike in sntsk'il'ntan - Black Mountain Regional Park.

EMERITI/SENIORS' SPORTS PROGRAM

Harry Hubball, Convenor, Professor Emeritus, Curriculum and Pedagogy

The Emeritus College Senior Sports Program continues through the summer from May to September, offering a variety of competitive team games and racquet sports. Participants are invited to join, provided they play at an intermediate level (e.g., National Rating Player Levels 3-4+). For examples of EC participants and related performance levels in team games and racquet sports, [view the images here](#).

To register contact harry.hubball@ubc.ca

WINE APPRECIATION GROUP

David McArthur, Convenor, Land and Food Systems

The Wine Appreciation SIG met on Thursday, February 20th. The meeting started with a quick review of sensory training helpful for wine tasting and then began on the topic, "How is the BC wine industry (especially the Okanagan Valley) faring after the extreme cold weather of January 2024?" David provided photos and an update on the damage observed in the vineyards he visited in the fall of 2024 and progress in the vineyards in terms of return growth and/or replanting. David also provided summary comments on the efforts of Okanagan wineries to use USA grapes harvested and shipped to the Okanagan for winemaking of non-BC VQA wines this past fall.

The Wine Appreciation group taste-reviewed an example Pinot Noir (Quails' Gate Field & Flight) of these non-BC VQA wines along with some BC VQA Okanagan wines from vintages before 2024 that stand

out for their high quality:price ratio (White Meritage from McWatters, an old vintage "Old Vines Foch" from Quails' Gate, a red Meritage-style wine from Township 7 and a Late Harvest Gewürztraminer from Wild Goose).

Please reach out to david.mcarthur@ubc.ca if you are interested in attending the next meeting.

VEG (VEGAN ENTHUSIAST GROUP)

Elizabeth Dean, Convenor, Professor Emeritus, Physical Therapy

As a resource to Emeritus College members, VEG features a plant-based health tip, related to plant-based nutrition, in each issue of the Newsletter. For further information about VEG, an inclusive plant-based resource SIG contact elizabeth.dean@ubc.ca.

PUMPKIN SEED FROM THE VEG PATCH



Get the best bang for your 'cruciferous vegetable' buck?...The component of cruciferous vegetables thought to explain their multisystem health benefits is 'sulforaphane'. Sulforaphane is well protected when you eat broccoli raw. When cooking cruciferous vegetables, sulforaphane is best protected by cutting the vegetables first and then waiting 40 minutes before cooking.

For a detailed explanation of the biochemistry see: [Greger M. How Not to Die](#). Flatiron Books, New York, NY, 2015 (pp305-307).

GROVES OF ACADEME

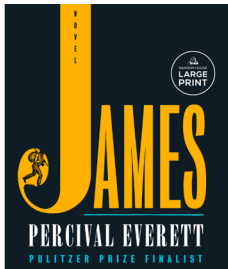
(otherwise known as a Book Club!)

Graeme Wynn, Convenor,

Professor Emeritus, Geography

Groves welcomes new members. For details contact

wynn@geog.ubc.ca.



ENCOUNTERING JAMES: A REVIEW

Submitted by **Kate Sirluck**,
Associate Professor of Teaching
Emeritus, English Language and
Literatures

This February, the Groves of Academe book group discussed Percival Everett's splendid, fiercely humane novel, *James*, a reconfiguring of Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn* that situates the escaped slave "Jim" as protagonist and narrator, exposing and subverting the earlier work's erasure of black people's perspectives, historical agency, and experience. We were joined by distinguished Everett scholar Dr. Anthony Stewart, Associate Dean of Faculty at Bucknell University, Pennsylvania.

James's escape narrative is written with a stolen pencil in the margins of a stolen notebook in which the minstrel troupe leader, Emmett, composed lyrics depicting black people as objects of ridicule, suited only to be servants. James's account emerges antithetically, undermining Emmett's racism and overwriting Mark Twain's adventure story. In *Huck Finn*, Jim is freed by his owner, tricked by the boys into thinking he is still a slave, and then paid off in recompense for his ordeal as a plaything. He seems grateful for it. In Everett's book, a "playful" take on slavery is unthinkable. Tom Sawyer disappears at the outset and Huck is a secondary character, absent for much of the action. It is James's ordeal of liberation the novel explores.

James is an increasingly subversive agent within the slave-owning culture that seeks to restrain him. Secretly trespassing into Judge Thatcher's library, he teaches himself to read, wrestling with Enlightenment philosophers like Voltaire, Rousseau, and Locke. Later, delirious with snakebite, he disputes with these philosophers, asking how, when they championed the Rights of Man, they still condoned slavery. In a society where black people are not allowed to look masters in the eye, are forbidden to speak their minds, let alone to



© Paul Steinbok

Above: With the light on the callus tissue surrounding the stump of the cut branch of an Arbutus tree, I imagined a hand cupping and treasuring the imprinted maple leaf. Paul Steinbok, Emeritus College Photo Group.

read or write, James covertly teaches enslaved children to read, write, and speak two languages: correct English amongst themselves, and a slave dialect to use with whites.

Slaves in this novel are subjected to ferocious surveillance by insecure "owners" ready to condemn them to torture or death for a minor infraction. Yet being white is a matter of absolute uncertainty in the novel. According to James, Huck is his biological son, but does not know it until James tells him; he has the status of a white boy until he learns that the choice to "be" black or white is his. James's fugitive companion, Norman, looks white but was born a slave. Escaped, he identifies as a black man to black allies and a white man to white enemies. Categorizing people by colour is absurd, but the more absurd it is, the more relentless and spectacular the violence needed to uphold the lie. Slave-holders in this novel are bound by no law but their own collusion with each other to treat certain humans as property. James is claimed, bought, and sold repeatedly by people who don't actually "own" him, even by southern law. With dark humour, Everett exposes slavery as a quasi-legal form of piracy that violates human rights, reason, and any sane standard of civilized social cooperation. Graeme Wynn observed, "One of the messages I took from the book is Everett's strong endorsement of recognizing the humanity of the other." Making life into a hell for black

people, white slaveholders claim biblical sanction for their actions. When Huck sees this, he decides he doesn't like whites, even as he initially recoils from the consequences of identifying as black. Katerina Dorovini-Zis, noting James's statement to the children he teaches that "there is no God," pointed out the irony of slaves forced to adopt the very religion that justifies slavery. James rejects any religion or philosophy that condones inhumanity.

The society depicted in *James* is rife with contradictions. If evil has the law and religion on its side, good must become an outlaw. To do what is right, James must become "criminal," "steal" himself, escape on a stolen boat, and use a stolen pistol to defend himself and others. When James sets fire to the slave-breeder Graham's cornfield, Everett is paying tribute to the great Frederick Douglas, a former slave, who said in an oration to an abolitionist group in 1852, "It is not light that is needed, but fire." But Everett is keen to have both.

When Anthony Stewart joined us, he highlighted Everett's interest in two things: assumptions about race, and naming, showing that Everett's work confronts assumptions governed by conditioned racist ideas of what "legitimizes" the *representation* of a character as white or as black. Part of Everett's craft is to foreground and then undermine these assumptions. Dr. Stewart considered how people in the novel "play with racial identity," "while at the same time having a really clear sense of how skin colour at birth situates people in a hierarchy." White minstrelsy in *James* is "based on the power to adopt and then abandon some sort of identity that isn't yours, in order to make fun of it, to minimize and demean it." Slaves, too, in order to avoid being lynched, perform the racial inferiority whites insist on. Graeme Wynn spoke about the centrality of performance in *James*, and Kathy Flynn-Magee was fascinated by the way language-use in the novel was structured around social expectations, noting that when James holds Judge Thatcher at gunpoint, Thatcher is more frightened by James' Standard English and references to Enlightenment writers than by the gun.

James uses language, including renaming himself, as an act of self-claiming. Dr. Stewart remarked that names are very important for African-descended people, where "authoritative re-assignment of names



Above: Reflections of fall colours in a puddle on the road. Paul Steinbok, Emeritus College Photo Group.

and appropriative naming detract from the personhood of people whose stories were taken from them when they were abducted and deprived of liberty." We see this in *James*, where black men are called "Doris" or named after days of the week. Ruth Derksen noted that along with naming, writing becomes a crucial theme. When James begins writing his own narrative, determined to tell the story from the other side, he accepts responsibility as truth-teller, accepts that he is in a state of war, and so becomes the artificer of a new future, and a new version of history, for himself and the many slaves he liberates throughout his journey.

Dr. Stewart observed, "In the case of Twain's picaresque *Huck Finn*, the horrors of slavery are largely occluded," whereas in *James*, they are explored through the protagonist's own experience. He concluded by saying, "education is not enough in itself to overcome bigotry. But reading, with its amazing alchemy, can provide a *relationship* with the other that

Groves will reconvene in September. Below is the 2025-2026 book list in alphabetical order:

Vincent Delecroix, *Small Boat*
Robert Harris, *Archangel*
Han Kang, *Human Acts*
Barbara Kingsolver, *Demon Copperhead*
Malcolm Lowry, *Under the Volcano*
Vladimir Nabokov, *Prin*
Mordecai Richler, *Solomon Gursky Was Here*



Above: The rooftops of buildings on Granville Island, photographed from the south end of Granville Street bridge, created beautiful lines and patterns. Paul Steinbok, Emeritus College Photo Group.

is experiential rather than didactic, and which therefore has the potential to transform attitudes.”

This is what Everett sets out to do in *James*.

PHOTO GROUP

Roy Saunders, Convenor, Clinical Associate Professor Emeritus, Paediatrics

The Photo Group is hosting an in-person meeting on June 20 with a Macro Photo Demonstration from **Brian Bemmels**, Professor Emeritus, Commerce and Business Administration. [Visit the website](#) for more information.

Paul Steinbok, Professor Emeritus of Surgery, provided photos for this issue of the Newsletter.

I am a retired Pediatric Neurosurgeon, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Surgery and an avid photographer. I was born in Barbados, went to medical school at the University of the West Indies (UWI) in Jamaica and then specialized in Neurosurgery at UBC. My journey into photography began in 1965 when I joined the Camera Club at UWI. By 1970, my talent was recognized with the Challenge Cup for amateur photography at the Jamaica Festival Photographic Exhibition. I continued to be passionate about photography thereafter and am an active member of the Photography Special Interest Group of the UBC Emeritus College.

My photography reflects a broad and eclectic range, including nature, travel and street photography. My photographic eye is especially attracted to patterns and the interplay of light and shadow. For the past 5 years, starting in March 2020 with the imposition of Covid restrictions, I have been taking photographs on daily walks. I looked more closely at my surroundings, played more with my camera and

used my imagination. It was, as the famous French-American photographer Elliott Erwitt said about photography: “It’s about finding something interesting in an ordinary place..... it has little to do with the things you see and everything to do with the way you see them.” Photography allowed me to perceive unexpected awe-inspiring beauty in ordinary things around me that I had ignored previously. I have incorporated these photographs into a book, titled “Discovering Everyday Awe: a Photographic Journey”, which I hope to have published. For the newsletter, I have chosen a sampling of images from this book.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER GROUP

Ruth Derksen, Convenor, Professor Emeritus, Philosophy of Language

Nancy Gallini, Convenor, Professor Emeritus, Economics

Members of the Volunteer SIG are encouraged to write brief reports of their volunteer activities to be included in future issues of the newsletter. Please send reports to ruth.derksen@ubc.ca. In this issue, Helen Wilkes describes her recent volunteer experience in a unique location.

SURPRISES IN KYRGYZSTAN

Helen Wilkes, French
Member of the Community Volunteer Group

Recently, I received an invitation to teach at a university whose location, Bishkek, the capital of Kyrgyzstan, I had to verify. I’m so glad that I said “YES!”

I did not receive my opportunity to teach through any organization. An American contact wrote to a number of universities offering to teach English and received a positive reply from KSTU, Kyrgyz State University of Technology. Knowing of my interest in languages and foreign cultures, he then contacted me and asked if I would like to join him. As it turned out, the department was a “language” department rather than one devoted specifically to English, and when they discovered that I was fluently tri-lingual, they grabbed me for the many students eager to learn German. To them, America seemed remote, a land across the sea,

a place that they would never see and where they might not necessarily feel welcome, but Germany, at least, was a possibility. It beckoned as a country that would open its doors to students seeking more technical and computer skills, AI etc.

I noticed so many smiles that I began to track where and when they occurred. I saw that, when new people approached at a bus stop, complete strangers were soon engaged in animated conversations. These often led to smiles and laughter. I observed that when schoolchildren arrived at the bus stop, adults spoke to them. I contrasted this with our Western mentality of “Don’t speak to strangers” that teaches Canadian youngsters to distrust anyone to whom a parent or teacher has not given their stamp of approval.

That wariness of strangers remains in the back of our minds, leading us to avoid eye contact, to keep the focus on our hand-held screens, and to pretend that we don’t see our fellow humans in coffee shops, restaurants and other public places, even when they are sitting adjacent to us.

It is an attitude that may well have come to Canada along with the early colonizers of the land. More than half the younger generation of Brits say that they are uncomfortable starting a conversation with a stranger.¹ Their discomfort along with the isolation experienced by so many citizens has led the Prime Minister of the UK to appoint a Minister of Loneliness.

Persistent loneliness (lasting longer than two weeks) has been linked to high blood pressure, heart disease and stroke, as well as to Alzheimer’s disease. The United States Surgeon General has stated that it can also lead to premature dementia, obesity, drug and alcohol abuse, depression and suicidality. He has also warned that “combating loneliness requires not just individual action, but also a collective responsibility. It’s a public health issue that demands the same level of attention as any other epidemic.”²

Medical experts consider it more dangerous than smoking 15 cigarettes a day. They advise us to talk to strangers because even 30 seconds of friendly conversation with a store clerk or cabdriver has a positive impact on mood.³

¹ whistlepunks.com/news/brits-have-lost-the-art-of-conversation/
² newsweek.com/us-surgeon-general-loneliness-epidemic-1960451
³ prevention.com/health/mental-health/a29873388/loneliness-epidemic/



Above: Rarely do I encounter Canadians whose smiles light up the room, as did these two women at rest after slicing fruit and buttering bread, offering us the only food available in miles of uncharted wilderness. Even the old woman felt useful. She nodded appreciatively as we thanked her. Seldom do I see a similar smile on the faces of the old in Vancouver.

And what about these warnings that “Asking if social media makes you lonely and depressed is a little like asking if eating makes you fat. ... As with any diet,... the latest research suggests that limiting social media use to 30 minutes a day “may lead to significant improvement in well-being.”⁴

Increasingly, I see few people limiting their use of social media in the way they limit their intake of fat, sugar, or fast food. I see the constant scrolling as a desperate attempt to ward off loneliness and the lack of genuine human contact. I think back fondly of those encounters at bus stops in Kyrgyzstan and the two smiling women I photographed in a yurt.

Are there other reasons people looked happier? Among the eye-opening differences that I noted, was the degree of honesty and trust that was everywhere on display. Open-air markets and the countless items being sold from tables or carts on street corners, in particular, drew my attention. People, usually women and elderly men, often simply sat on the sidewalk with whatever they had managed to gather or amass. Sometimes, these were glass jars or plastic containers filled with berries. Sometimes, these were household items or a jumble of well-worn clothing. Sometimes, it was an assortment of dried and fresh grasses and greenery.

Some people, like the owner of the stand behind the woman, had acquired larger bags of pre-packaged goods which they were selling for less than the cost in a store whose owner would need to charge a higher

⁴ health.harvard.edu/blog/is-a-steady-diet-of-social-media-unhealthy-2018122115600

price to cover the cost of buying or renting space in a building. As I looked at the bags piled on the boxes behind the woman and at other stalls selling sacks of potatoes and large items like watermelons, I wondered what would happen as night descended. Surely there would be no truck or other conveyance ready to whisk these people and their goods to some out-lying suburb where homes were cheaper!

I began to visit these street markets and stalls in the evening hours, and to my surprise, I saw that most tables



Above: Woman selling fruit in the market.

and stalls were simply covered with a plastic tarp in case of rain, and that the actual produce and material objects were left for re-sale the next morning. When I inquired about theft, especially of smaller objects that it would be easy to slip into a pocket or a purse, the students and the teachers that I questioned looked at me with surprise. "Theft?" they said. "We are brothers and sisters. We do not steal from one another."

I contrast this with news reports from Canadian retailers who claim that shoplifting has become rampant. In the belief that self-checkout technology makes theft easier, many shops have installed cameras.⁵ In Bishkek, the local supermarket where I often shopped also had self-checkout facilities, but there was nary a camera in sight.

What conclusions shall I draw? Is there some aspect of our culture that makes us more egotistical, more concerned about our own needs and desires and less caring about our fellow humans? Is the concept of other

⁵ biv.com/news/retail-manufacturing/surge-in-shoplifting-employee-theft-shakes-vancouver-retailers-9667967

people as our "brothers and sisters" merely a matter of empty words?

Do our universities teach kindness, or do they foster individualism, prompting students to care primarily about their own advancement up the economic ladder? To what extent did you focus on teaching values along with the essentials of your discipline? Is there some aspect of our culture that makes us more egotistical, more concerned with own desires than the well-being of our fellow humans?

Is it too late for you to volunteer to teach in the developing world? I suspect that, like me, you will return to Canada enriched beyond all expectations, having learned far more than whatever you intended to teach.

Helen Wilkes is the author of two books, including [The Aging of Aquarius: Igniting Passion and Purpose as an elder](#) (2018) and [Letters from the Lost: A Memoir of Discovery](#) (2010). You can find her at: helenwilkes.ca and helenwilkes.substack.com

VETERANS, MILITARY AFFILIATED, EMERITI AND ACADEMICS GROUP

Marv Westwood, Convenor, Professor Emeritus, Educational and Counselling Psychology & Special Education;

Richard Vedan, Co-Convenor, Associate Professor Emeritus, Social Work;

Judith Hall, Co-Convenor, Professor Emerita, Pediatrics

The Veteran Friendly Special Interest Group plans to meet in September to plan activities for the Fall semester and to identify EC members interested in becoming available to provide mentorship to veteran students.

By then we hope to know the fate of the Institute for Veterans Education and Transition (IVET) program.

We are also proud and delighted that Marv Westwood is receiving the *King Charles III Coronation Medal (2025)* which recognizes his significant contribution to Canada having spent decades serving veterans and active-duty members. As a co-founder of the Veterans Transition Network, (VTN) he developed evidence-based programs for PTSD and Operational Stress Injury (OSI) helping hundreds to recover and training clinicians to extend this impact.

His contributions have enriched lives in our community and add to the quality of life for all Canadians. The Donor concludes: *"Thank you for setting a positive example through your work and your service and this history of developing programs for PTSD in Veterans at UBC which has had an enormous success. Over 25 years, not a single veteran committed suicide!!"*

OKANAGAN BRIDGE GROUP

Barbara Rutherford, Convenor, Associate Professor Emeritus, Psychology

The UBCO Bridge SIG welcomes players of all levels for games that emphasize learning and enjoyment. Our current group includes a mix of players who are new to the game and others with more experience. The combination works well. New players can request coaching when stuck, and more experienced players can test their knowledge by explaining strategies and bridge conventions. After approximately 2 hours of cognitive challenge from playing the game, we down-shift to well-earned socializing over tea and treats. Meetings are typically twice per month for face-to-face games at a player's home. Please contact Barbara Rutherford if you are interested in joining the games.

OKANAGAN OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES GROUP

Ian Walker, Convenor, Professor Emeritus of Biology, Earth, Environmental and Geographic Sciences and
Melanie Jones, Co-Convenor, Professor Emerita, Biology

RECENT EXCURSIONS

The Okanagan Outdoor Activities Group has continued with outings through the winter and spring. A small group of three people explored snowshoe trails in the Sovereign Lake area of the North Okanagan on March 4th. Although the snow had been degraded in some regions because of warm weather, we encountered very good conditions. We had fun speculating on the regeneration pattern of the forest there, given the number of veteran Douglas-fir trees that had obviously developed under open conditions, but with no fire scars.

On April 2nd, seven of us enjoyed beautiful spring weather at sntsk'il'ntən - Black Mountain Regional



Above: Outdoor Activities Group on the April 2nd hike into sntsk'il'ntən - Black Mountain Regional Park

Park. The hike was 6 km, with sightings of Western Meadowlarks and Sagebrush buttercups.

The May trip was a glorious 17-km bike ride on the Rail Trail and Pelmewash pathway circumnavigating Wood Lake. Six emeriti and friends enjoyed a sunny, 20C afternoon. We relaxed with snacks on the beach at the half-way mark, had a close-up view of an osprey beside the lake, and learned about the two groups of kokanee in the lake. It was so enjoyable that there is talk of a day-long trip from the trestles to Naramata along the old Kettle Valley Rail line in the summer.

Join our excursions! Contact ian.walker@ubc.ca



Above: Outdoor Activities Group on their May bike ride around Wood Lake



Above: Traditional outrigger fishing boats. Photo courtesy of Clair Weeks who is co-hosting the September Travel Group talk.

TRAVEL GROUP

Paul Steinbok, Convenor, Professor Emeritus, Surgery
Visit the [Upcoming Events](#) for date/time details.

JUNE MEETING

Circumnavigating Iceland with an extension to Greenland
Paul Steinbok, Professor Emeritus, Surgery

In July 2024, we embarked on an unforgettable journey starting from Reykjavik, circumnavigating the breathtaking island of Iceland, and then visiting the dramatic Icefields of Ilulissat, Greenland. We experienced the stunning and sometimes otherworldly landscapes of Iceland – volcanic craters, lava fields, geothermal activity, waterfalls and glaciers. We visited small coastal villages and encountered a variety of wildlife, including a large colony of puffins. We then flew to the Inuit settlement of Ilulissat, where we visited the awe-inspiring Icefjord and sailed among its huge icebergs. This photo presentation offers a visual narrative of two of the world’s most captivating destinations.

JULY MEETING

Newfoundland: What took us so long to visit this province?
Kay Teschke, Professor Emeritus,
Population and Public Health

My husband and I finally made it to Newfoundland in July 2023 and were amazed at how much more than “the rock” it is, how it rivals so many places we travel so much farther to see, and how we loved it.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Visit to Hampi in India and Cycling in Sri Lanka
Peter Wing, Professor Emeritus, Spine Surgery and
Claire Weeks, Assistant Professor Emerita,
Rehabilitation Medicine

A friend, after spending a year in India some decades ago, remarked that the most interesting place she’d seen all year was Hampi. We’ve been to India a number of times and have gotten close, but, finally, in December 2024, we made it to this extraordinary UNESCO Heritage Site, home to long-abandoned, beautifully preserved 13th and 14th century palaces and temples. It fulfilled expectations! From there, we travelled to Sri Lanka and enjoyed a stimulating 2-week cycling trip, going into the hills and along the coast and canals, seeing tea plantations, tropical flora and fauna, amazing ancient religious sites and eating exotic and delicious food. Our photos will help us share what we enjoyed most.

OCTOBER MEETING

Excursions to Hong Kong and Mainland China
Anthony W. Chow, Professor Emeritus, Infectious
Diseases, Medicine

In 2024, my wife and I attended my 65th high school reunion in Hong Kong and took the opportunity to tour mainland China including Shanghai, Suzhou, Yangzhou and Chengdu. Since I was born in Hong Kong and had visited mainland China multiple times during the early 80’s and 90’s on behalf of CIDA-funded research projects, it was of great interest to observe first-hand the amazing social and infrastructure transformations occurring in mainland China.

Committee and Program News

GENERAL MEETING

The Emeritus College Annual General Meeting took place on May 7 at the Ponderosa Ballroom. There was a short business meeting with an update on the current activities of the College. The group welcomed the new executive and council members **Sandra Bressler, Wendy Hall, Melanie Jones, Paul Steinbok** and **Lorraine Weir**. And a big thanks was given to outgoing executive and council members **Bill McCutcheon, Paul Harrison** and **Vijay Verma!**

At the award ceremony, **UBC President Bacon** presented the [President's Award for Distinguished Service](#) to **Wendy Hall**, Professor Emeritus of Nursing and **Muhammad Iqbal**, Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering. Principal William McCutcheon presented the [UBC Emeritus College Award for Excellence in Innovative and Creative Endeavours](#) to **Charles Krebs**, Professor Emeritus of Zoology.

Following the meeting, **Paul Quirk**, Professor and Phil Lind Chair in US Politics from UBC Political Science presented a lively talk called *Trump 2.0 and American Democracy*. [Watch the recording of the event.](#)

The first General Meeting of the 2025-2026 year will take place in October. Watch the [website for dates](#).

SCHOLARLY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Jo-ann Archibald, Chair, Professor Emeritus, Educational Studies

This year, the Scholarly Engagement Committee (SEC) has worked on three main projects:

1. The development of a position statement: Emeritus Status and Inclusion at UBC;
2. Revisiting the thematic priorities of the EC's 2022 Indigenous Strategic Plan;
3. Organizing a display of recently published books by Emeriti.

Regarding the first item, members of the SEC are very concerned that Emeriti continue to experience institutional ageism that violates the core UBC principles of diversity, equity and inclusion.



Above: UBC President Bacon presents Muhammad Iqbal with the President's Award for Distinguished Service on May 7, 2025.

In this position statement, the SEC recommends that the Emeritus College and UBC leadership discuss and act on this pressing issue so that Emeriti who are engaged in the research, learning and service goals of the university are also fully included in the life of the university.

In relation to the second project, the SEC is reviewing the thematic priorities that formed the existing EC's Indigenous Strategic Plan with the goal of including aspects of these actions in the Emeritus College's future strategic priorities.

For the third project, the book display at the April 2024 General Meeting garnered 41 book submissions and lots of interest.

PHILOSOPHERS' CAFE

Nichola Hall, Convenor, Continuing Studies

The Philosophers' Cafe, an Emeritus College public outreach program, will be back at Seasons (formerly Tapestry) in the upcoming academic year. Gathering together as a group in which everyone's opinion is equally valuable, we aim to have lively discussions on topical subjects, where differing points of view can be expressed and explored.

We welcome suggestions for upcoming topics (past topics include: *Housing in Vancouver*, *Do we Need the CBC?*, and *How Can We Relate to Younger Generations?*)

Send your suggestions to events@emerituscollege.ubc.ca.

Watch out for updates on Fall meeting dates, and please do come and join the discussions.

POEM SUBMITTED BY **LAWRENCE WARD**,
PROFESSOR EMERITUS, PSYCHOLOGY

Riding the Surfboard of Life

The waves roll in and crest
Some large, some small
Some perfect, "I'm riding the tube"
Some messy, planting boards in sand.

From whence come the waves?
Winds and tides, depths and shoals
Surfers can't control those things
They can only read the swells.

A metaphor for life, no?
Unknown forces control
The destiny of us all
As we ride the waves.

Spilled off the board by cancer?
Drowned by a rogue wave
Of heart disease?
Battered by a storm of unemployment?

Disappointed by a tricky curl
That stops a deserved promotion
Left gasping for breath
In the backwash of a foe's disdain.

Or, triumphantly riding into
The big award
On a perfect wave
Of popular adulation.

Basking in the bliss
Of complete union between
Wave and rider that
Committed lovers enjoy.

It's all there
But we must beware
Choose an appealing wave
And then, be brave.



Above: Aerial root in the frozen Cypress Pond at VanDusen Botanical Garden. Paul Steinbok, Emeritus College Photo Group.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

David Hill, Chair, Pharmaceutical Sciences

THE EMERITUS COLLEGE IS SEEKING NEW UNIT REPRESENTATIVES

The Membership Committee is seeking volunteers to serve as Unit Representatives for a number of departments and schools for which the position is currently vacant. All UBC departments and schools (and the faculty in non-departmentalized units) have an Emeritus College member who is the designated representative to facilitate the flow of information between the unit's emeriti (and those in the unit nearing retirement) and the administrative, governance and programmatic functions of the College. The Membership Committee is anxious to fill the vacant Unit Representative position in the following departments:

UBCV

Applied Science- Civil Engineering
Arts-Art History, Visual Art and Theory
Arts-Economics
Dentistry-Oral Biological and Medical Sciences
Medicine-Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Medicine-Cellular & Physiological Sciences
Medicine-Emergency Medicine
Medicine-Medicine Department
Medicine-Obstetrics & Gynaecology
Medicine-Pathology and Laboratory Medicine



© Paul Steinbok

Above: The complexity and beauty of Pussy Willow catkins in late winter surprised me. Paul Steinbok, Emeritus College Photo Group.

Medicine-Psychiatry
Medicine-Radiology
Science-Chemistry
Applied Science- SCARP

UBCO

College of Graduate Studies
FCCS- English and Cultural Studies
FCCS- World Literatures and Intercultural Communications
School of Health and Exercise Sciences
School of Social Work
Faculty of Management-Management
Faculty of Medicine- Southern Medical Program
Economics, Philosophy & Political Science
Psychology
Chemistry

CLIMATE AND NATURE EMERGENCY COHORT

Olav Slaymaker, Convenor, Professor Emeritus, Geography, and
Frank Tester, Professor Emeritus, Social Work

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE POLYCRISIS COHORT

We are in a dangerous world right now. Since January 20, 2025, the UBC Emeritus College's Cohort on the Climate Change Polycrisis has been appalled by President Trump's denial of the fact of climate change and distressed by the accompanying loss of political momentum in Canada for addressing the polycrisis. But we are in no way defeated. We have met on a monthly basis since the Spring of 2022 and have been seeking to answer the question "What is the distinctive advice that our Higher Education system should provide in dealing with this emergency". At the same time, we must acknowledge that "the depletion and pollution of the planet is not the work of ignorant people. Rather it is largely the result of work by people with BAs, BScs, LLBs, MBAs and PhDs" (Orr, 1994, p.7).

A. CULTURE AND CLIMATE CHANGE

A film, created and produced by Emeritus Professor Frank Tester and funded by the former Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies and UBC's Emeritus College, was released to members of the College on May 14 and July 23, 2024, and had its public premiere in Vancouver as part of a national consortium of Seniors for Climate on October 1, 2024. There are two parts to this film: 1) entitled "Voice", explores the question of who is being heard, who is silenced and what needs to be changed in relation to the climate polycrisis. Dean Vanessa Andreotti, University of Victoria chaired this session and facilitated the voices of a group of five UBC students and 2) entitled "All My Relations" was chaired by Siila Watt-Cloutier, OC and drew strength from five indigenous UBC students' perspectives on our relationship with the biophysical environment of which we are an integral part. There are two more sessions planned (but still not funded) that will explore 3) the "limits of technical fixes" in addressing the climate emergency and 4) "grief, collective fatigue and hope".

B. THE FUTURE OF FOSSIL FUELS

We admit the necessity to retain the big oil, gas and coal industries while alternative renewable energy sources are being developed, but the real problem is that, in spite of assumptions to the contrary, there has, as yet, been no energy transition, only a massive expansion of all kinds of raw materials and energy source exploitation (Historian of Science and Technology Professor Jean-Baptiste Fressoz, 2024).

Emeritus Professor John Millar has produced a paper entitled the “Future of Fossil Fuels” that addresses the deliberate creation of misinformation by a network of large, profitable fossil fuel corporations. He notes that a just energy transition must include “a plan that supports workers displaced from fossil fuel related industries; a more caring culture that puts the health of its life forms as a priority over corporate profits; addresses injustices, particularly to marginalized peoples; and provides public services, such as education, human well-being, food security and affordable housing”.

C. HUMANITY'S ONGOING ECO-CULTURAL PREDICAMENT

Emeritus Professor Bill Rees has generated a proposal for “A world symposium on humanity’s ongoing eco-cultural predicament”. If you have not yet read this proposal, I urge you to do so at your earliest opportunity. The following paragraphs are a much-simplified summary of the key features of the proposal.

The document advances a proposal for UBC to host a uniquely focused global symposium that would dissect humanity’s contemporary eco-social predicament. The overall goals are: 1) to advance a realistic picture of global society’s current self-destructive trajectory and 2) to suggest a framework by which higher education administrators, and specifically UBC’s leadership, could guide curriculum and research strategies in ways that acknowledge and confront the culture-wide dilemma in which we find ourselves.

The biophysical manifestation of crisis is ecological overshoot: humanity is consuming even renewable resources faster than they can regenerate and discharging wastes in excess of the ecosphere’s assimilative capacity. The human enterprise is literally destroying the biophysical basis of its own existence.

The social manifestation of crisis is an accelerating break-down of civil society even in wealthy countries:



Above: A rotting Western Red Cedar stump in Douglas Park, which I walk past frequently, has fascinated me. Each side presents different three-dimensional structures, which vary depending on the moisture in the wood, the time of day and the light. After one of our fall atmospheric rivers, small mushrooms were growing in some of the crevices within the saturated and richly coloured dead wood. Paul Steinbok, Emeritus College Photo Group.

widening income gaps; an affordability dilemma; an addiction and homelessness problem; increasing distrust of government authority; and the general erosion of the social contract. Overshoot, left unattended, is a terminal condition. Our modern techno-industrial culture is flying blind into an unprecedented existential crisis.

Overshoot is the proximate driver of this crisis, but there is a deeper and more distal driver: the near-universal post-enlightenment belief in human exceptionalism or the notion that, unlike other species, *Homo sapiens* is not part of nature and is therefore exempt from natural laws. Having objectified nature, modern techno-industrial culture treats the living ecosphere as a mere trove of exploitable resources and a passive esthetic backdrop to human affairs.

The really inconvenient truth is that, as long as Earth remains humanity’s home, the only solution to overshoot resides in greatly reduced energy/material consumption, pollution and human populations. What then should we be doing? Can we plan a socially just contraction of the human enterprise that will enable future generations to thrive within the means of nature.



Above: Pictured in front of the Geography Building are Department Head Geraldine Pratt; Emeritus Professors Michael Church, Richard Copley, David Edgington, Greg Henry, Dan Hiebert, Brian Klinkenberg, David Ley, David McClung, Ian McKendry, Dan Moore, Margaret North, Robert North, Tim Oke, Alf Siemens, and Graeme Wynn; New faculty Kate Hale, McKenzie Kuhn, Marysa Laguë and Tianjia Liu; Staff members Connie Cheung, Devin Fennerty, and Vincent Kujala. Photo by Aaron Woods

It is proposed that three sets of questions be presented to invited speakers:

- (a) How did we arrive in this predicament?
- (b) Is a just and peaceful recovery still even possible?
- (c) In what ways has BC's higher education system contributed to this existential crisis?

D. MEMBERSHIP OF THE EMERITUS COLLEGE COHORT ON THE CLIMATE CHANGE POLYCRISIS

Professors Emeritus Olav Slaymaker, who convened this cohort in the Spring of 2022, hereby acknowledges the expertise and thoughtfulness of the following Professors Emeritus, namely Jo-Ann Archibald, John Millar, William Rees, Douw Steyn, Frank Tester, Robert Woollard, and Graeme Wynn. He also acknowledges the many meetings with individual members of UBC's Senior Administration and the arrangements currently being finalized for further meetings with UBC's Deputy Provost, Janice Stewart.

Other Activities of EC Members

UBC GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT EMERITUS REUNION LUNCHEON MARCH 2025.

David W. Edgington, Emeritus College Unit Representative, Geography

Every academic unit at UBC has its own culture and practices for keeping retired professors connected to each other and their home department. At the Geography Department a former head instituted a yearly lunch for all Emeriti. Then came Covid (horrors!), which sadly stopped this wonderful tradition in its tracks.

In the post-Covid era, the Department recently brought back the idea of a reunion luncheon. This was hosted this spring in the Geography Building thanks to the support of the head, Gerry Pratt, and her Assistant, Connie Cheung. New faculty recently hired by the Department were also invited to meet with retired faculty - in addition to the Department's talented staff who work hard to keep our technical devices and software in good order as well as manage our research and administrative affairs.

The March 2025 reunion proved a popular event and a wonderful opportunity for retired faculty to catch up with the head and new faculty in the Department, together with the staff in a relaxed and enjoyable setting.

CHIM'S PHOTOJOURNALISM: FROM WAR TO HOPE

Ben Shneiderman, Computer Science

Ben Shneiderman has curated a photo exhibit at the [Jewish Community Centre](#) at which he will be giving tours and talks. The exhibit features 51 photos taken by his uncle, the famous photojournalist, David Seymour, also known as Chim. Ben is the manager of Chim's estate, arranging exhibits and donating prints to major museums. On May 22, Ben introduced a related book project that includes 10 photos by Chim, which were included in the translation of Ben's father's book [Journey through the Spanish Civil War](#), a work only recently translated from Yiddish to English by Deborah Green. The photo exhibit runs until June 15, 2025. Zara Onkar, UBC Graduate Student in Art History, has been hired to support installation and publicity.



Above: Girl Holding a Gun by David Seymour, Chim.
Courtesy of Ben Shneiderman

CHIM'S Photojournalism: From War to Hope is a captivating exhibit showcasing the work of the renowned photojournalist David Seymour - "Chim". Hosted by [The Sidney and Gertrude Zack Gallery at the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver](#), this exhibit runs from April 25 to June 15, 2025. Chim's 51 photos capture raw emotions and pivotal moments from war-torn landscapes, including stories of resilience and hope during post-war reconstruction and the rise of Israel. This exhibition highlights his exceptional storytelling talent while offering a poignant reflection on the human condition by one of the 20th century's most influential photojournalists. This exhibit was initiated by Cynthia Young, curator at New York's International Center of Photography, drawing on vintage prints in their collection. She considered Chim's photos to be "elegant compositions of startling grace and beauty." The Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center produced the prints for their year-long exhibit, which were later presented at the Portland Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education.

BIOGRAPHY: David Seymour, CHIM (1911-1956), legendary photojournalist and co-founder of Magnum Photos, produced some of the [most memorable photos of the 20th century](#). Born in Warsaw, Poland, he was the son of famed Yiddish publisher Benjamin Szymin, whose

family name inspired the professional byline CHIM. He studied graphic arts in Leipzig and then turned to photography in 1933 while continuing his studies at the Sorbonne in Paris.

CHIM covered many important political events for leading magazines in Europe and North America, beginning with the transformative French political movements and the tragic Spanish Civil War. At the outbreak of World War II, he made his way to Mexico and then New York. During the war, he served as an aerial photo-interpreter with the U.S. Army in Europe.

In 1947, CHIM co-founded Magnum, the international photojournalists' cooperative, with his friends Robert Capa, Henri Cartier-Bresson, George Rodger, and William Vandivert. His postwar series of touching photographs of the physically and spiritually maimed "Children of Europe" attracted worldwide attention through *LIFE Magazine* articles and a book by UNESCO. The compassionate portraits of these young victims of war led a friend to note that to CHIM, wars were an enormous crime against children.

CHIM was drawn to Israel, making several professional trips in the early 1950s. In 1956, while photographing for *Newsweek*, he was killed at Suez by an Egyptian machine-gunner, four days after the Armistice was signed.

Magnum lives on as a leading cooperative of passionate photographers. CHIM's work continues to inspire and draw attention. It teaches photographers to get *close enough* to their subjects while inviting them to connect with viewers, even decades later.

For more information, see the [Chim Homepage](#) and [Wikipedia](#)



Above: Man Holding a Baby by David Seymour, Chim.
Courtesy of Ben Shneiderman



Above: Detail from *yəχ'əle? ʔi? st'in k'w'a? ʔi? 4qelc ʔi? sce:4tən* (*Eagle & Thunderbird with Moon & Salmon*) photo by Phil Chin.

Musings and Comments from Emeriti

ELECTION DAY 2025

Valerie A. White, Professor Emeritus,
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Every time I voted at an election, I marvelled at the tremendous effort required by so many to run the massive machinery that upholds our democratic process; so, one of the things I promised myself to do after I retired was to work an election. I fulfilled that promise during the recent election by working as a Registration Officer at a polling site in Sidney.

The process started by filling out a short application form on the Elections Canada website and reading descriptions of the various positions available in the usual polling station. I was contacted a few weeks later and after agreeing to my position, attended a training session of about 3 hours where we ran through the various scenarios that we might encounter. An amusing tidbit is that those working the polls cannot wear any coloured clothing that might indicate a party preference, so no red, blue, green, orange or purple!

The basic positions consist of the Information Officer who greets you at the door and directs you to the appropriate polling station, the Deputy Returning Officer, the person most voters see, who checks your ID, strikes your name off the voter list and hands you your ballot, and the Registration Officer who deals with various problems such as registering new voters,

correcting names and addresses of voters who have moved into the polling division area, ensuring that voters are in the correct polling site and providing help for any other unusual situations that might arise. There are usually several of the above officers as well as at least two Poll Supervisors who keep things running smoothly and deal with more complex problems, often by interacting with the main Elections Canada office for the riding. The entire process for federal elections is analogue: pencils and paper only; not a computer in sight!

The day started at 0600 when I arrived at my polling station and helped to set up my table with a colleague. We ran through a few scenarios to familiarize ourselves with our duties and prepared for the polls to open at 0700, when we admitted the small line-up of early birds that had gathered!

As I was in a smaller polling division we had a smooth day without the huge line-ups that I had seen at the advance polls in my area. There were never more than six or seven people in any one line-up for a polling station, but business was steady. The day had a predictable rhythm with a few working age people arriving before heading to work or while out walking in the morning. This was followed by mainly seniors and retired people throughout the rest of the morning. Lunchtime and early afternoon were quieter before business picked up again in the late afternoon with

many working age voters arriving after work, often with young children in tow. One young man of about three was allowed to put his father's and then his mother's ballot into the box, receiving rounds of applause from those nearby and looking very pleased with himself. Around this time several young, first-time voters arrived, proudly presenting their ID to us to be registered, including one young woman who just turned 18 on voting day. We also gave these democratically engaged citizens a round of applause when they left after putting their ballot in the box. Even though Sidney is noted for having the highest percentage of senior age population in the country, we had voters throughout the age spectrum.

It amazed me to see the efforts that some expended to cast their ballot. One middle-aged man brought in his two very elderly parents who took several minutes to shuffle across the hall to our desk to have their ID

checked and then shuffle slowly to their correct polling station, to wait their turn and then voting; the whole process must have taken the man over an hour from the time he picked his parents up and then returned them home. Another elderly woman checked with us in the morning for a friend she was bringing later to make sure she was in the right place, and she did indeed return in the late afternoon with her friend, who used a walker and was clearly short of breath.

Everything didn't go completely smoothly though. One elderly woman was most upset when told that she was at the wrong polling location, insisting she had come to this location previously and told us she would not be making her way to the other location as she didn't know where it was, even though it was only a few blocks from her home. Two middle-aged men were extremely short-tempered when told they didn't have the right type of ID, with at least one piece showing their current address, and didn't even wait for an explanation of what types of ID would be acceptable and that they might have something available on their phone. One stomped off but returned later, with the correct ID, apologising for his previous behaviour. The other, a first-time voter, who mumbled that he had been talked into coming by people 'at home', seemed relieved when told he didn't have the correct ID and therefore, had a good excuse for not voting.

The highlight of my day was meeting Elizabeth May, who was filmed coming to vote at our polling location. I had a chance to thank her for all her hard work in keeping the climate agenda in front of voters and parliament, and to wish her luck in being re-elected, which she was.

The rest of the evening was slow until closing at 1900 with just a few voters rushing in at the last minute. After the polls closed, it was still not time to leave. We cleaned up our stations and prepared to count the vote. Again, there are very specific instructions for this process with only the Deputy Returning Officers allowed to handle the ballots at their stations. I assisted by recording each vote on a specific form after it was unfolded, the candidate marked read aloud and the ballot shown to all around our table, then placed on top of a large brown envelope for each candidate. When all ballots were counted, they were recounted and reconciled with the numbers on my



Above: The tunnel like web of the common garden spider. Paul Steinbok, Emeritus College Photo Group.



Above: Spring flowers on the UBCO campus. Photo by Margo Yacheshyn/UBC Okanagan University Relations.

form, including those for unused, spoiled or rejected ballots and each envelope closed with special seals that we each had to sign. Ballots, forms, tallies and event logs used in voting at that station were then placed inside the ballot box in specific envelopes and the box resealed with a numbered and signed seal. One of the supervisors took a carbon copy of each of the poll results to phone them in. We finished up just before 2100 and took a moment to congratulate each other for coming together to perform a long day's work well done in one little corner of our nation, before rushing home to watch the results roll in on TV.

SCAMMED

Judith Hall, Professor Emerita, Pediatrics

I thought I was savvy until I got scammed by a call with RBC (Royal Bank of Canada) listed as the caller!

They knew everything about me from my birthdate and social security number to my mother's maiden name and childhood dog's name!

The caller told me I had been scammed, and that RBC needed to recall my RBC credit card and debit card. The caller said I should cut them in half, and they would send an RBC courier by to pick them up and send replacements in the morning after forensic evaluation.

Sure enough a car with RBC on the side soon arrived to pick up my cut-up cards. But by the next morning—when I had not received replacements—I went to the

bank. Fortunately, I had just paid off my Visa and little was left in my accounts. And the real RBC stood by with their assurance of supporting me.

They asked that I alert all of you! Scams are out there, and we as older people are their targets—so be on the alert! Don't trust phone calls of any kind. And when you cut up your card be sure to cut through the chip!

Don't join me in being SCAMMED!

In Memoriam UBC Professors Emeriti

Raja T. Abboud
Professor Emeritus of Medicine
1936-2025
University Service *-2001

Merle Eugene Ace
Associate Professor Emeritus of Commerce
and Business Administration
1935-2025
University Service 1970-2000

Julian Edmund Davies
Professor Emeritus of Microbiology
1932-2025
University Service 1992-1997

George W. Egerton
Associate Professor Emeritus of History
1942-2025
University Service 1972-2008

Brenda J Morrison
Professor Emerita of Health Care and
Epidemiology
1936-2025
University Service 1970-1999

John O'Kusky
Associate Professor Emeritus of Pathology
1950-2024
University Service 1986-2020

JoAnn Perry
Associate Professor Emerita of Nursing
1943-2025
University Service 1976-2008

Terence (Terry) Wales
Professor Emeritus of Economics
1940-2025
University Service 1971-2000

If you have news about the passing of a colleague,
please let us know: office@emerituscollege.ubc.ca

* Information not available at time of publication.



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We would like to hear from you!

The newsletter strives to include stories and information about all types of activities of emeriti in retirement, whether personal or scholarly. Accompanying photos are encouraged and appreciated. If you are uncertain as to whether a piece would be suitable don't hesitate to reach out.

To showcase your research, we welcome short descriptions of scholarly work that are written in a narrative style, without jargon related to a specific field, such that all members of the EC, regardless of faculty, can understand the substance of the work being described.

Please send your story to:
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