

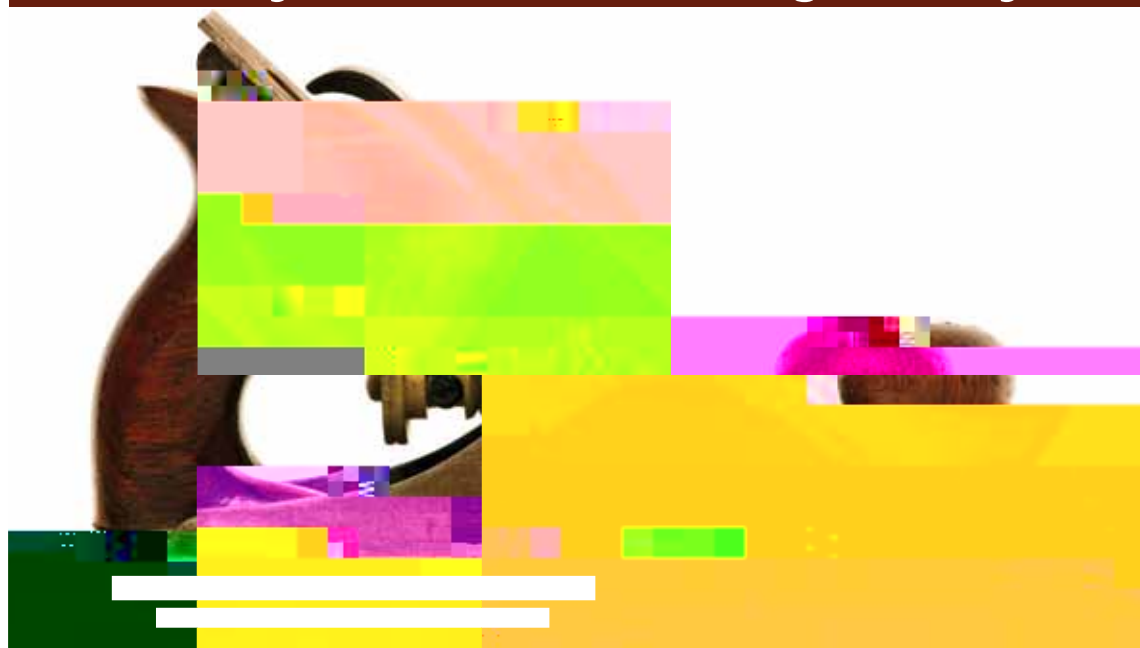


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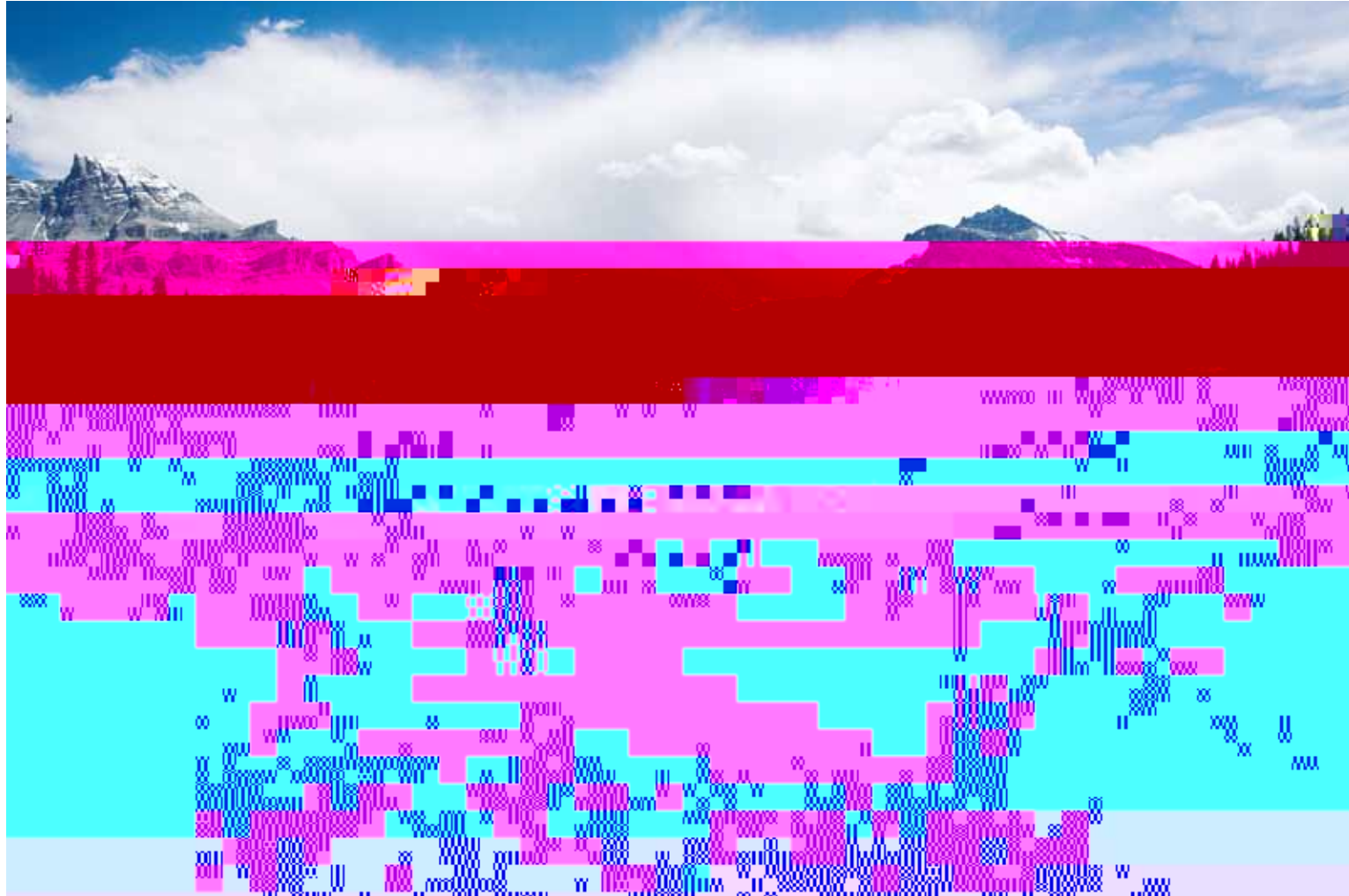


UVic engineering students Bo Li,

Treat yourself to a learning holiday



CONVOCATION 2010



BY ROBIE LISCOMB

is year's top graduate student thesis is already a published book of poetry.
Even before writing student Melanie Siebert

CONVOCATION 2010

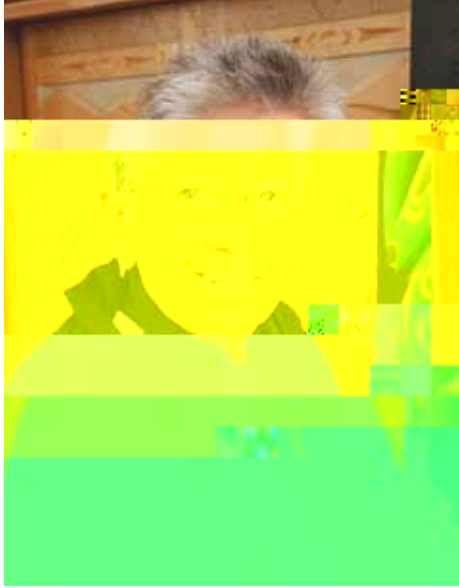
Honorary degree list includes ex-Bank of Canada governor

BY MIKE McNENEY

David Dodge, who guided the Bank of Canada's fiscal policy through most of the last decade, will be among four recipients of honorary degrees during Spring Convocation ceremonies.

The university's highest honour will also be presented to Marie Cooper, a leading advocate of Aboriginal education, trail-blazing journalist Linda Hughes, and one of Canada's leading authorities on heritage conservation, Harold Kalman.

Podcasts of the Convocation addresses of this year's honorary degree recipients will be posted on the web as soon as possible after the ceremonies. Visit: <http://communications.uvic.ca/podcasting/convocation/>



Marie Cooper

Honorary Doctor of Education (10 a.m., June 18)

Marie Cooper is a leading voice in Aboriginal education in BC, working to create opportunities in education for Aboriginal learners and more inclusive educational policies and practices for the benefit of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students alike.

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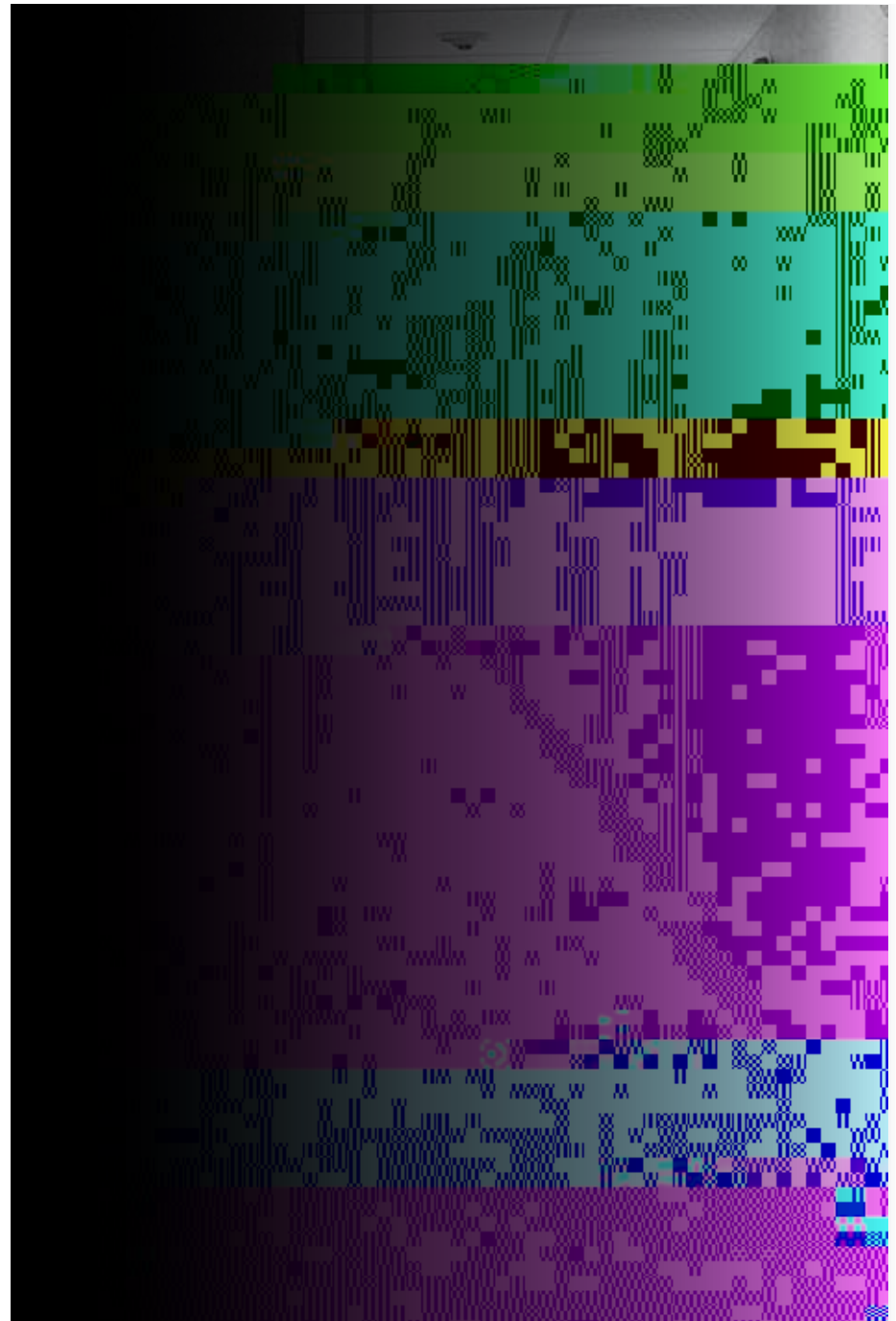


A passion for social justice

Victoria City Councillor and Vancouver Island Compassion Society founder Philippe Lucas has had his share of life experiences. Lucas was exposed to hepatitis C through the tainted blood supply at age 12, but the condition was only diagnosed in 1995, the same year that his father committed suicide. “Sometimes life makes choices for us, and with the benefit of a little longevity we can see that even the most adverse event or situation can lead to some positive outcomes,” says Lucas, whose personal experiences with medical cannabis led him to conduct a number of research projects on this topic over the last 15 years.

Graduating with a Master of Arts in Studies in Policy and Practice—an interdisciplinary graduate program in the Faculty of Human and Social Development aimed at those involved in social activism, human services and community work—has provided an opportunity to “deepen the theoretical underpinnings that form the base of progressive reform efforts, particularly in the area of drug policy,” says Lucas.

Recipient of the 2007 UVic Blue and Gold award for community contributions, Lucas has



BY ANNE MacLAURIN

A passion for helping those suffering from the stigma of mental illness drove honours psychology grad Deanna Singh to the top of her class, earning her the 2010 Jubilee Medal in Social Sciences.

“My dream is to change the stigma of mental illness in our society,” says Singh. “Too many people suffer in silence with depression and other mental illnesses.”

Singh came to UVic after spending three years studying microbiology at UBC. She says changing her major to psychology was the best decision she ever made. Strong family support also helped Singh follow her love of psychology.

“I want new students to know that it is never too late to change your major,” she says. For Singh, an honours psychology program was a better fit; she knew her dream of helping people with mental illness could become a reality.

Singh appreciated the honours psychology program especially for its small group size of 20 students and excellent instruction from the department’s faculty. “We worked so closely together,” says Singh. “It was the highlight of my degree.”

Singh was so excited to be at UVic and in a program that she loved that achieving her best was fairly stress free. “It is so important to love your program,” says Singh. “I could have stayed with microbiology and been very unhappy.”

Outside of her academic life, Singh runs to keep fit and relieve

any stress, volunteers weekly at the Victoria Hospice Society, and performs a classical Indian dance called Bharat natyam. “The dance I do is both meditative and physical,” says Singh. “I have been dancing Bharat natyam for 14 years.” Between the meditation and physical elements of the dance, running and volunteering, Singh has a busy and rewarding life beyond studying.

For the first time in many years Singh will not be taking classes this

summer; instead she will be tutoring ESL Korean students and house painting. In September she will begin a four-year UBC medical degree at UVic’s Island Medical Program. “I’m so pleased that I can study medicine on the UVic campus.”

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UVic's SPARCS Program (Solving Problems with Algorithms, Robots and ComputerS) has won the BC Educational Technology User's Group (ETUG) 2010 ETUG Innovation Award in Educational Technology. SPARCS is a group of professors, graduate students, undergraduate students and children that work to raise awareness of computer science in Victoria, Canada and beyond. SPARCS strives to enlighten and inform students from grade school to first-year about the possibilities of computer science at UVic and beyond using fun and innovative methods while contributing original research to the computer science education community. <http://outreach.cs.uvic.ca/>

Jens Bornemann (Electrical and Computer Engineering) is UVic's newest fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering, recognized for his distinguished achievements and career-long service to the engineering profession. His research includes RF/wireless/microwave components and antennas, systems design, and problems involving electromagnetic field theory in integrated circuits and radiating structures. The academy is an independent, self-governing and non-profit organization established in 1987 to serve the nation in matters of engineering. It currently has 306 active members, 125 emeritus members and three honorary members.



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