



RING



Biologist **Dr. Rossi Marx** is being recognized with a Distinguished Service Award from Youth Science Canada for her continued support of the Vancouver Island Regional Science Fair (VIRSF). The annual fair fosters scientific inquiry among young people (ages 9–18) and provides young scientists an opportunity to demonstrate their findings. A volunteer with the fair for 25 years, with 11 years as chair of the organizing committee, Marx is responsible for everything from booking facilities, to recruiting judges, to fundraising. The award celebrates her tireless service and immeasurable contributions to science outreach on the island. Marx will receive the award at the 2015 VIRSF, running Apr. 12–13 at UVic.

Dr. Rob Lipson has been reappointed for a further term as Dean of the Faculty of Science. “Dean Lipson has served effectively as the public face of the faculty, promoting science throughout the university, in the community and with external agencies,” says Dr. Valerie Kuehne, Vice-President Academic and Provost. “He recognizes and supports the diverse range of disciplinary and

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around the ring

Special convocation for Kathy & Ken Shields

Husband and wife coaching legends Kathy and Ken Shields, who led their teams to a combined 15 national basketball titles at UVic, accepted honorary doctor of laws degrees from the university at a special convocation ceremony on April 2. A crowd of 150 family, friends, former players and staff gathered for the presentation in the ceremonial hall of First Peoples House, a departure from the usual practice of conducting convocation ceremonies in the University Centre. Ken Shields said he was “delighted” to receive the honour in First Peoples House, since a key period of his childhood was spent in Masset. Kathy Shields said they had never given any thought to the possibility of one day receiving the university’s highest academic honour. “This is just so far from anything we thought about. We just did our jobs and enjoyed our passion,” she said. “At the time, we never thought about the (championship) banners or the wins, we just thought about the players and the experiences we had.” Full article: bit.ly/shields-bb

Diversity employer award

UVic has been named one of Canada’s Best Diversity Employers for the fourth year in a row. The winners of the 2015 competition were announced March 31, recognizing 65 organizations across the country for a range of exceptional initiatives to attract and retain employees from diverse communities. UVic was one of only six post-secondary institutions included on the list, and one of two organizations in Victoria. The university was recognized for maintaining a diversity and equity steering committee, hosting an annual diversity research forum, managing a mental health task force, having an Elders-in-residence program to provide students and staff with guidance on Indigenous ways of knowing and being, and many other strategic initiatives. Full article: bit.ly/diverse-uvic-15

Student Mental Health Literacy Training Program

New training sessions have been announced for the Student Mental Health Literacy Program, a campus-wide initiative aimed at enhancing awareness among faculty, sessional instructors, teaching assistants and staff about student mental health issues. Open sessions for faculty and staff with basic training in mental health awareness and response run through April and May. The program is part of the Student Mental Health Strategy launched last year in the Division of Student Affairs. For full details and schedule, see bit.ly/mental-health-15.



Coady. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES



DAVID H. TURPIN GOLD MEDAL FOR CAREER ACHIEVEMENT IN RESEARCH

Andrew Rippin, professor emeritus, history

Andrew Rippin, professor emeritus of history, has been awarded the David H. Turpin Gold Medal for Career Achievement in Research. Rippin has spent his career at UVic, where he has been a faculty member since 1971. He has published numerous books and articles on Canadian history, including *The Making of a Nation: Canada and the British Empire* and *The Making of a Nation: Canada and the British Empire*. Rippin is also a past president of the Canadian Historical Association and the Canadian Historical Association. He has received several awards and honours, including the David H. Turpin Gold Medal for Career Achievement in Research.

Rippin. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

CRAIG DARROCH SILVER MEDAL FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Yang Shi, mechanical engineering

Yang Shi, mechanical engineering, has been awarded the Craig Darroch Silver Medal for Excellence in Research. Shi is an associate professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at UVic. He has published numerous papers in the field of mechanical engineering, including *Journal of Applied Mechanics* and *Journal of Pressure Vessel Technology*. Shi is also a past president of the Canadian Society of Mechanical Engineers and the Canadian Society of Mechanical Engineers. He has received several awards and honours, including the Craig Darroch Silver Medal for Excellence in Research.

Stajduhar. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

SUPPORTING STUDENT FAMILIES

Family Centre marks 20 years

BY KATE HILDEBRANDT

The Family Centre at the University of Waikato has celebrated its 20th anniversary. The centre was established in 1995 to provide support for students and their families. It has since grown into a well-established service, offering a range of support programs and resources. The centre's mission is to provide a supportive and inclusive environment for all students and their families, ensuring that they have the resources and support they need to succeed in their studies.

The Family Centre has a long history of providing support to students and their families. It has been a key part of the University of Waikato's commitment to student success and well-being. The centre's services are designed to address the unique needs of students and their families, providing a range of support programs and resources. The centre's staff are dedicated to providing a supportive and inclusive environment for all students and their families, ensuring that they have the resources and support they need to succeed in their studies.

Inclusion and support

The Family Centre is committed to providing a supportive and inclusive environment for all students and their families. The centre's services are designed to address the unique needs of students and their families, providing a range of support programs and resources. The centre's staff are dedicated to providing a supportive and inclusive environment for all students and their families, ensuring that they have the resources and support they need to succeed in their studies.



