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Three from UVic awarded 3M National Student Fellowships, recognizing leadership



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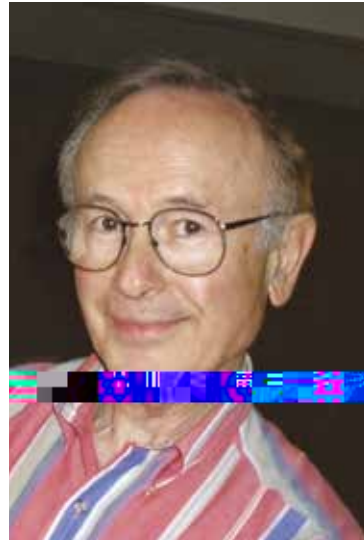
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UVic welcomes new dean of law: Susan Breau

Dr. Susan Breau will become the next Dean of the Faculty of Law, serving a five-year term from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2023. Her appointment was overwhelmingly ratified by members of the search committee with 95.7 per cent approval.

Since 2014, Dr. Breau has been the Head of the School of Law at the University of Reading, UK, and has a distinguished record of achievement as a researcher, teacher and



Building the business case for water

Labwork builds the brain, literally

BY SUZANNE AHEARNE

When Tia Sojonky arrived at UVic from her hometown of Regina, Saskatchewan to study engineering, she realized she'd underestimated how much hard work it was going to be. Sojonky, who's graduating in June with an honors degree in biomedical engineering, says she did take advantage of the many resources available for assistance but what made the biggest difference for her was doing a co-op work term in a lab led by UVic biomedical engineer Stephanie Willerth.

"Once I started working in the lab and doing research, I just couldn't get enough," laughs Sojonky from Australia, where she was travelling ahead of convocation. Lab work gave her a greater sense of purpose and drive. And her hard work paid off. Her research with the Willerth lab focused on bioengineered brain tissue. It was done in collaboration with STEMCELL Technologies—one of the largest biotech companies in Canada—where Sojonky later did an extended co-op placement.

"BEING A FEMALE IN ENGINEERING HAS MOTIVATED ME TO SUCCEED IN THIS AREA BECAUSE THERE ARE SO FEW OF US. STRONG FEMALE ROLE MODELS SUCH AS DR. WILLERTH HAVE ALSO

Diploma by distance enables new perspective

BY KATE HILDEBRANDT

Sabrina Curtis, of Golden, BC, sees herself as someone who thrives on seeking out the next challenge.

"I'm happy with life," says the mother of two, who just completed an online graduate diploma in evaluation through the School of Public Administration. "I'm just always looking for ways to add interest and understanding, to look at things through new contexts."

It's a fitting trait for Curtis, as the director of planning and evaluation for the Columbia Basin Trust. Curtis is applying her learning directly to her complex work of measuring the performance of many diverse community programs and strategic initiatives supported by the trust. "Hadfield launched us into a new world of learning about how to lead change," said Curtis. His

"I feel like this program was talk inspired the trust and its command for me," says Curtis. "It offered me a new perspective around the shifting demographics of their region, rapidly evolving organizational challenges which we have been struggling with for a long time." The subject matter led to her learning new ways to improve several processes. That practical application, she says, continues to translate as accomplishments at the office.

"It was rewarding," says Curtis. "I now have a more elaborate toolkit to access in managing our program evaluations, and reports to communities and clients on our progress."

These "clients" are the 150,000 people situated across 80,000 sq. km (about 13,000 sq. miles) within the Columbia River basin in southeastern BC. The Columbia River is essential to every aspect of life, and the trust was created to support the ideas and efforts of the people in the region.

"It's very satisfying work," Curtis explains. "There is so much opportunity to do good things, which can be both a blessing and a curse."

Case in point: coordinating a region-wide symposium in 2017—SHIFT! Living in Change—Curtis and her team attracted a whopping 450 delegates with astronaut Chris Hadfield as guest speaker. He also live-streamed a presentation to school children from across the basin's communities.





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SEM goals come into focus

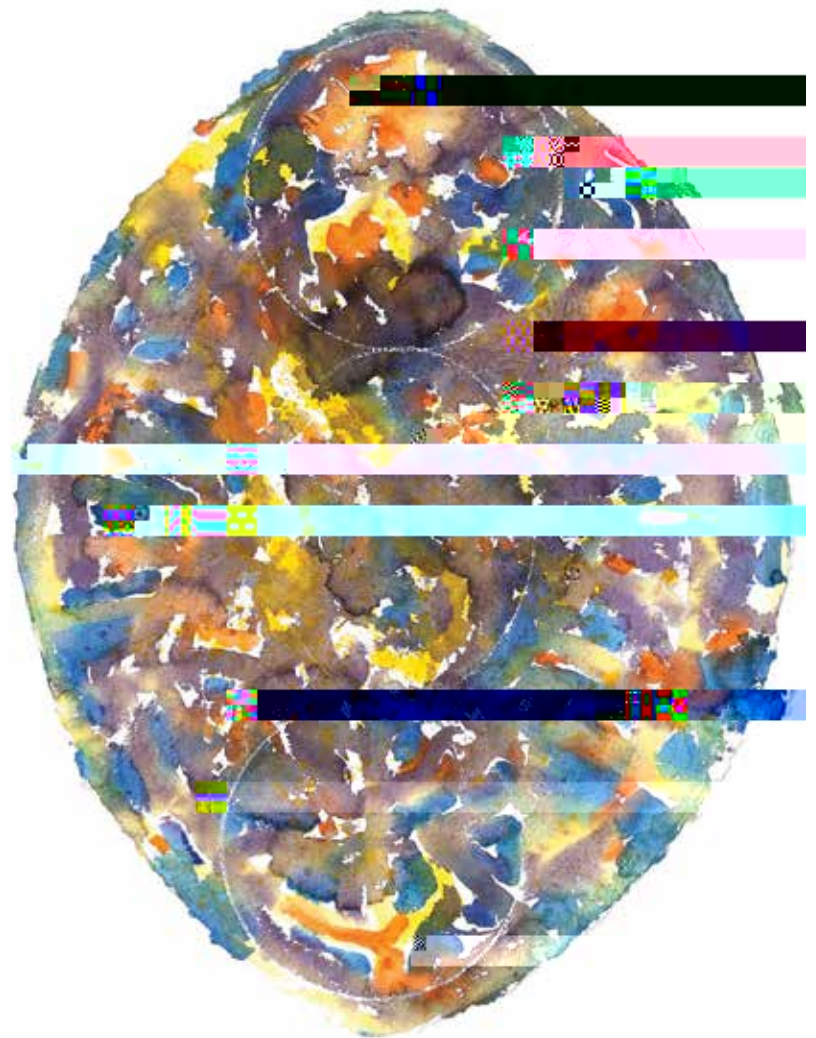
In May, UVic's strategic enrolment management (SEM) planning process reached another milestone as work transitioned from establishing goals to the development of strategies and tactics. The Enrolment Management Working Group (EMWG) has been hard at work since January developing the draft enrolment goals. The enrolment goals will form the basis of the university's first ever SEM plan and were developed in consultation with the campus community and in alignment with the strategic framework and other current institutional TJ 00

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