

DIANA NETHERCOTT

## EDGEwise

CanAssist harnesses the ingenuity of faculty, students and staff from virtually every discipline at UVic, as well as volunteers from the community. For more information visit [www.canassist.ca](http://www.canassist.ca).

Through CanAssist, UVic students get extraordinary experiential learning opportunities. More than 2,200 UVic students have participated in CanAssist projects as part of their course work, through co-op work terms, as graduate students or as volunteers.

CanAssist clients range from visually impaired children to adults with advanced neuromuscular degenerative diseases such as multiple sclerosis and ALS.

Projects include tricycles for children with physical and visual impairments, wheelchair and walker accessories, and eye-tracking communication systems for people with especially challenging disabilities. CanAssist only develops devices or programs that are not available commercially or through other service providers.

To date, CanAssist has developed more than 140 innovative technology solutions and provided direct assistance to many hundreds of clients.

UVic researchers were awarded more than \$106 million