

University of Victoria Retirees Association

UVRA Elder Academy Report to the 2017 AGM

Introduction

The format of a series of related presentations was followed again this past year. Generally, four presentations form a series, usually with one or more presenters doing each of the sessions. The format seems to work well,

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4. *Circuit training. Presented by Megan Frazier in the Department of Athletics and Recreation.*

The course was offered in partnership with the Department of Athletics and Recreation. Two courses were originally to be offered, but only one received the necessary registration.

Participants: 12

5. *“The German Lied: Big Emotions in Small Packages”. Presented by Harald and Sharon Krebs*

The series introduced participants to one of the important genres of 19th-century music—the German Lied. A Lied (song in the German language) usually involves only two performers—a singer and a pianist—and usually lasts only a few minutes. But within this small frame, one finds the most profound emotions and ideas. The series traced the history of the genre and presented a wealth of examples thanks to the talents and insight of Harald and Sharon Krebs, internationally known performers and academics.

*A special thanks to **Harald and Sharon Krebs** who gave so generously of their time and talents to present this series for the UVRA Elder Academy.*

Participants: 22

6. *“Planetary Systems and the Search for Extraterrestrial Life”. Presented by J.J. Kavelaars, Jon Willis, Helen Kirk and James Di Francesco.*

All presenters are internationally acclaimed astronomers who shared their insights into “beyond earthly things”. The series explored everything from new regions of our solar system, how stars are born, the new ALMA observatory, as well as the search for alien life!

*The series was put together by **Colin Scarfe** to whom we owe huge thanks. He was able to convince four of the leading scientists in their fields of study to come and share their insights and research as part of the Elder Academy series. There is no doubt this series would not have happened without Colin’s efforts and commitment.*

Participants: 65

7. Gene

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the basics of genetics and how the human genome project has enhanced our understanding of disease and disorders. In addition, an understanding of genetics can have profound implications on how treatment and medications are individualized for optimal effects.

The series