

NETWORK

A L U M N I



Sun Demons Women's Soccer team won the National Championship this fall. Congratulations!

WINTER 2000 • VOLUME 9 • NUMBER 1

THE BUSINESS OF ADVENTURE

BY KATIE STEWART

"It's the only program of its kind in the world," explains Ross Cloutier, chair of UCC's Adventure Programs department. "It is not a recreation or entry-level program; our students have years of outdoor adventure experience, and are highly motivated when they come here."

photo by Pat Morrow

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT WWW.CARIBOO.BC.CA/ALUMNI



In order to better communicate with members of The University College of the Cariboo's community, I have undertaken to write a "President's Report" three times per year. The following are excerpts from the Fall Report, which I believe will be of interest to UCC's alumni.

A significant part of my responsibilities as President is to advocate and lobby for issues that are important to UCC. This year,

the Board of Governors and I have identified a number of issues that will be pursued with our MLAs, cabinet ministers and the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology.

The following is a brief synopsis of seven of these issues:

1. Adequate Institutional Funding

Over the past years, funding levels from the provincial government have not kept pace with UCC's increasing enrollment and the purchasing power of the Canadian dollar. As a result, UCC is having difficulty with such things as library acquisitions, scientific laboratory maintenance and the purchase of new technology for our many programs.

2. Library Degree Grant

With the advent of degree-granting status, UCC was provided with an annual Library Degree Grant of \$600,000 for the purpose of developing the required collections to support our ten different Bachelor degree programs. This grant has been reduced to \$288,000 and is scheduled to be cancelled on March 31, 2000.

3. Regional Funding

UCC provides regional programming through two campuses and ten regional education centres in the Cariboo. Regional programming is integral to UCC's commitment to providing accessibility. However, the provincial government does not provide funds for regional services in its grant to our institution.

4. Tuition Freeze

For the past five years, tuition at BC's post-secondary education institutions have been frozen to foster student access. At the time they were frozen, UCC's fees were below the provincial average. As most institutional expenditures are now set at the provincial level, it is unfair that UCC receives less revenue from student fees than do other institutions in BC that provide similar programs.

5. Williams Lake Campus

Two years ago it was necessary to abandon the Williams Lake campus because the ground began to shift. This movement caused the buildings to crack and posed a significant safety hazard. All programs and services were relocated throughout the city. This fall, UCC will receive a geo-technical report that will determine whether we can return to the old campus or are required to find another site for a new campus. In either case, funding must be secured from the government to establish a sustainable campus for UCC in Williams Lake.

6. Animal Health Technology Facility

UCC's Animal Health Technology program has achieved national recognition as a superb program. Unfortunately, the Animal Health building is barely adequate and must be replaced: to do that we need funding from the government.

7. Nursing Shortage

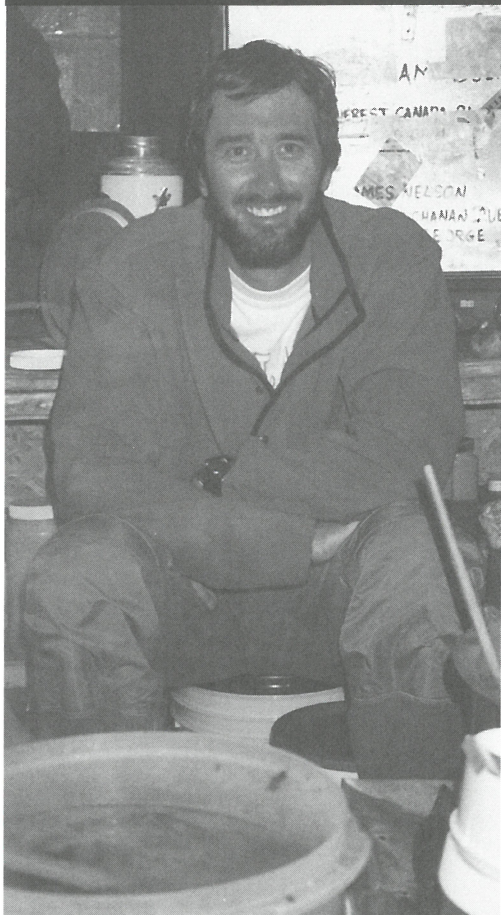
There is a growing, if not alarming, concern nationally over the availability of nurses. It is important that UCC join the regional, provincial and national lobby to secure funding to provide more spaces for the training of nurses.

An important, and very enjoyable, part of my job is to represent UCC to international institutions and partners. This past summer I visited a number of UCC's international partners in Hong Kong, Malaysia, Thailand, Bangladesh and China. During the trip I had the opportunity to meet with prospective students and alumni, to formalize new partnership agreements, and to discuss new program initiatives with a number of institutions. Of particular note, however, was the opportunity I had to represent UCC as the convocation speaker at the first graduation ceremony of our Bangladesh partner, The International University of Business, Agriculture and Technology. While it was an honour to participate with IUBAT's Chancellor, the President of Bangladesh, it was even more of an honour to represent UCC on this important occasion. In many ways, this event speaks to UCC's international profile and reputation. There are few other Canadian colleges and universities that have enjoyed such success in internationalizing.

As I look to my calendar for the winter months I see a full schedule of public events that you as alumni are welcome to attend. We have Sun Demons intercollegiate games throughout the winter, the UCC Foundation Gala in February, free cultural performances on selected Thursdays at noon in the Alumni Theatre, and numerous special presentations by our students, faculty and visiting scholars from across Canada. I hope you will support your *alma mater* and join us on campus for some of these wonderful events.

Roy H. Barnes

THE BUSINESS OF ADVENTURE



Ross Cloutier, at Mount Everest Advanced Base Camp, 6600m

by Katie Stewart

"It's the only program of its kind in the world," explains Ross Cloutier, chair of UCC's Adventure Programs department. "It is not a recreation or entry-level program; our students have years of outdoor adventure experience, and are highly motivated when they come here."

The program started in 1992, and since then, six years of grads have taken on the challenge of the adventure tourism industry. The Adventure Travel program offers three years of course work delivered in a two-year compressed format. Adventure travel is any outdoor activity that takes place in unusual, exotic, remote, or wilderness outdoor destinations. Adventure travelers are explorers of both an outer world, especially the unspoiled, exotic parts of our planet, and an inner world of personal challenge, self-perception and self-mastery.

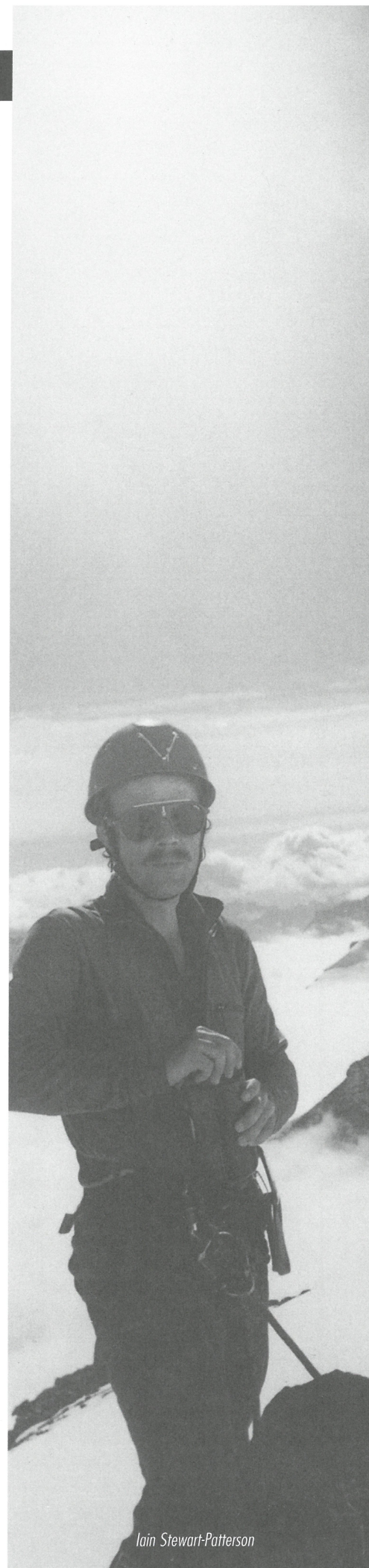
The goal of the program is to provide students with the interpersonal, hospitality, technical, and organizational skills necessary to secure long-term employment and careers in the

adventure industry. "There are broad employment opportunities and great flexibility in the courses so that the students can specialize within their interests," explains Ross. "Adventure tourism is currently the fastest growing segment of the tourism industry in British Columbia."

Application to the program is resume-based and requires that the students have a solid background in the activities in which they wish to specialize. Thirty percent of the students in the program have a previous degree when they enter the program, and 20% have diplomas. The most common areas of previous education are in recreation and administration, physical education, teaching, business and marketing. UCC's adventure tourism program has also seen a yearly increase in the number of women entering the program and this number has doubled since the start of the program. "The average year sees anywhere from four to six women. This year there are ten," says Ross.

The courses are taught in block format, which means that courses usually run about one week in length. "This allows us to bring in the best instructors in the industry from all over Canada, on a part-time basis," explains Program Coordinator, Iain Stewart-Patterson, who brings years of guiding credentials to the program. He has participated in numerous mountaineering expeditions throughout North America, Mexico, Peru, Nepal, and Europe.

British Columbia provides great opportunity for UCC's adventure travel grads, because, as Ross explains, "the interior region of British Columbia forms a natural hub for adventure travel. UCC is a natural center for this type of training, as one of the goals of the program is to have students participating in trips in the geographic area that they may work in." Activity courses in the program find students traveling extensively throughout Alberta, British Columbia, and the western United States, spending 50% of the program course time on these various trips. Students practice rafting in Washington, they do mountaineering expeditions in the Yukon and go skiing in Banff and Jasper. "We take the students to the places they are going to be working in; the intent of the program is to get the students into jobs after they graduate," said Ross.



Iain Stewart-Patterson



In his leadership courses, Iain has students run through a variety of 'what if' scenarios, as the danger associated with some adventure sports is actually part of the draw. "I have the students imagine they were guiding a group in the wilderness and one member falls and breaks a leg. What they do will depend on a number of variables, such as the setting they are in, the available contact with the outside world. They have to know what to do," explains Iain. "As well as the outdoor activities, we also focus on business and marketing because a lot of the grads choose to open their own businesses in adventure tourism."

Andrew Stokes-Rees is in his second year of the Adventure Travel program and is looking forward to a career as a foreign travel guide. "The quality of our instructing is outstanding," says Andrew. He recognizes the years of preparation that are put into the planning of courses and the level of instructing, saying, "there are no other programs in the world that train guides at this level." Andrew feels that having UCC's Adventure Travel program on his resume will give him credibility. "It's a world-class program," says Andrew, who is looking to gain what he calls transferable skills. These include such things as search

and rescue, first aid, navigation skills and river rescue. "In the past year, I have spent more than 80 nights in my sleeping bag — that's 80 nights of field course class time."

Adventure tourism is currently the fastest growing segment of the tourism industry in British Columbia, "contributing over \$900 million to the provincial economy this year," says Ross. The rapid growth has created opportunities for guides and instructors to have good marketing and business practices as well as the required industry certification.

Darrin DeRosa, who graduated from the program in April, 1999, believes that UCC's adventure travel program gives just this. "I now have leadership skills, team-building skills, and social skills that I wouldn't have gained as quickly if I had been on my own. At UCC, I was working with the best instructors in the industry and was able to form long-lasting business contacts." Darrin is currently working on starting his own business, called Adventure Realm, based in Vancouver. It



is a leadership-based program directed at helping youth gain confidence and leadership skills while at the same time learning about adventure sports.

"UCC spent eight years building the program," says Ross. "Now its real success will be based on the strengths and abilities of the graduates who will shape and mold the future of the adventure travel industry."

ALUMNI PROFILE

by Katie Stewart

When Kendra Lachine graduated from the Adventure Travel program in May of 1999, she found herself in an unusual position — being offered a full-time job.

She went to work in Calgary for a company called Enviro that specializes in wilderness programs for group homes. In September of this year she was offered another job, this time with an Internet-based adventure gear company in Toronto, writing about adventure sports and the kind of equipment required for various outdoor activities.

"It's a different atmosphere," explains Kendra of her new position, who is used to a more hands-on kind of job. Before Kendra applied to UCC, she had travelled for a year throughout Malaysia; when she returned to Canada, she found there was no work available as a canoeing guide and so decided to try out the adventure tourism program. "I had seen an ad in a magazine and I really like the name of the college," she says, with a laugh.

"Before I took the program, I was business illiterate," says Kendra, who approached the program as an opportunity to explore and learn new things. "The value for me was in the life lessons and in how to deal with people," she says.

ALUMNI PROFILE

by Katie Stewart

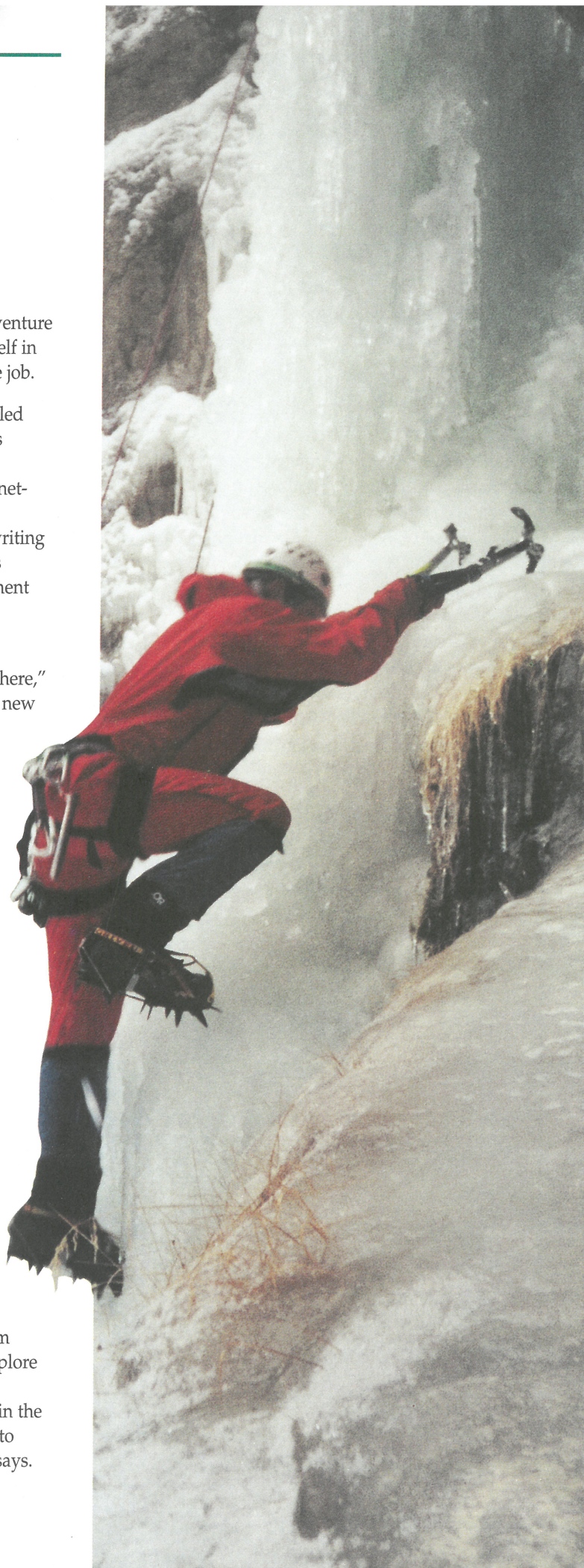
Andrew Nicholson first heard about the Adventure Tourism program from some friends while working at a summer camp in Ontario as a canoe trip guide. When he saw an ad in *Explorer Magazine* he decided to give it a try.

"I liked the idea of gaining further technical skills and more education," says Andrew, calling himself the "jack of all trades." Andrew says UCC's adventure tourism program was a success in getting him a job.

"UCC was great in that they provided me with the opportunity to collect different skills plus get the industry certification that comes with it. They provided the practice and teaching that was required for the industry exams."

Andrew had a broad resume to accompany his application to UCC's adventure tourism program. He had experience in mountaineering, whitewater rafting, sea kayaking and ski touring, giving him unlimited options for fun no matter the season. "I love them all."

"The adventure tourism program gave me the technical skills base and leadership skills needed for my current job," says Andrew. He is now teaching outdoor education in Calgary at the Strathcona Tweedsmire High School where he routinely takes students out on weekend canoeing and camping trips.



THE ALUMNI

1980s

DEAN FORTIN, UT '80, received his BA and LLB from the University of Victoria. Dean practiced law for a few years before focussing his attention on youth at risk. He became the Executive Director of the Victoria Association for Street Kids, a position he held for 5 years. Dean then started working at the Burnside Gorge Community Centre where he now supervises a large staff who provide family support services, child care, continuing education, a youth centre and a range of community development initiatives including affordable housing.

KATHIE BRYENTON (PASKEWITZ) UT '83, received her BA from SFU in 1989. After working for one year for the Federal Government's student employment program, Kathie started working at UCC as the first employee of the Co-op and Career Education department, where she is now the Chair.

WENDY MCKENZIE (CHESTER), NURSING DIPLOMA '84, is working full-time at Royal Inland Hospital in the Intensive Care unit as well as completing her fourth year of the BSN program at UCC. Wendy also works part-time with the Canadian Armed Forces Reserves as a Quartermaster, doing aeromedical evacuation tasks, and acting as the curator for the Forces museum. Wendy hopes to pursue a Masters degree in the future.

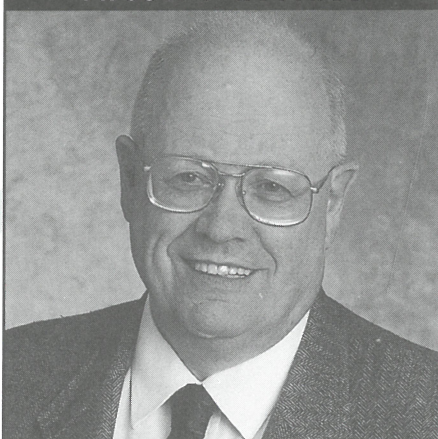
ERROL WILD, ACCT. TECH DIPL. '87, Public Sector Mngt. Dipl. '92 (U Vic.), is the purchasing manager for the City of Kamloops. Errol is very active in the Kamloops community coaching the Kamloops Heat Soccer Club of the Pacific Coast League, he is the President of the Kamloops Rugby Club and has joined the Board of the UCC Alumni Association this year. When not volunteering, or working, Errol finds time to travel.

1990s

DARYL SCHERGER, DIGITAL ART AND DESIGN '91, is currently working with Showmakers Productions in Vancouver, a company that does corporate presentation productions. Daryl started working with them immediately after graduation on a part-time basis and has been there full-time for several years. Daryl says that Showmakers has hired several UCC DAAD graduates in the eight years he has been there.

CHRIS MITRA, ASSOC. OF ARTS '91, BBA '92 AND CSOM '95, is currently working at BC Lottery Corporation in the Client Services department in Kamloops. Chris is very busy working on Y2K projects but says he occasionally gets to work on emerging technologies and their business applications. Chris is currently working on his Microsoft System Engineer certification and his A+ hardware certification. Chris, his wife and two children love living in Kamloops and he didn't want to go with most of his former classmates to the lower mainland for work.

FACULTY RETIREE



After 29 years at UCC, **CHARLES MOSSOP BA, MA (UBC), F.M.B.A.** retired in October. Charles started at Cariboo College in 1970 teaching Anthropology. He was the "China expert" and his mastery of several languages, including Mandarin, led to the start of international study tours in 1975. He soon became the Co-ordinator of International Travel Programs, noting that in that capacity he was also "acting, honorary, and definately unpaid." In 1983 the International Education Department was established and Charles became the first coordinator, and later the Executive Director. The program has grown enormously, with over 500 international students from over 35 countries attending UCC each year, and international contracts with private and government agencies which have taken UCC faculty to China, Malaysia, Vietnam, Slovakia, Chile, Nigeria, and many other countries around the world.

SUN DEMONS, GOLDRUSH AND CHIEFS! WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

UCC is planning an athletic alumni weekend in September 2000. If you played for Cariboo College/UCC on any varsity team — we need to hear from you to invite you back to UCC for a reunion.

Please update your address and what team and years you played with us on-line at alumni@cariboo.bc.ca, or call us at (250)828-5267. If you know the whereabouts of your former teammates, please call them and have them contact the Alumni office.



PATHFINDER

BYRON GAYFER BSC '94 AND NICOLE GAYFER (GUTHRO) BSC '95 were married in 1996.

Byron received his CGA designation last year and works for Nesbitt Burns as an Investment Advisor. Nicole is currently studying for her CGA designation while working full-time at Cunliffe Schreurs Tupper in Kamloops.

SYLVIE VEILLEUX, TOURISM SUPERVISORY DEVELOPMENT CERT. '96, AND FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANAGEMENT CERT. '96, has

opened her own restaurant, Sylvie's Cafe, in the Southgate Industrial area of Kamloops. Sylvie worked at the UCC Foundation for five years, helping to raise money for student scholarships and bursaries.

JILLIAN HAIGHT (LEPIEZ), ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNOLOGY '96, is working at the

University of Toronto as a Surgical Technician. Jillian has a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Western in London, Ontario, and while attending UCC, played with the Kamloops Symphony Orchestra. She is now a violist with the Mississauga Symphony, is also taking a violin-making course through the Ontario College of Art and Design, and still has time to work part-time at the Mississauga Emergency Clinic. Jillian has lost touch with her friends at the Kamloops Symphony and would like them to contact her at haight@interlog.com

KATHY BANKS, BSC '96 BIOLOGY, is currently at UBC finishing her Master of Science degree in Medical Genetics. Her thesis investigates the genetics of birth defects in mice. After Kathy graduates she intends to start a career in research working somewhere in North America, or she thinks she may possibly teach.

FACULTY RETIREE



RON PAULSON, BSC, (UBC) MSC, PHD (SFU), retired this year after 28 years teaching Biology. Ron served as the shop steward for the UCC Faculty Association and was the Association's President for one year. He was the Chair of the Biology department and established the Ginseng research garden on campus where he did research on crop improvement of ginseng. He is looking forward to golfing and fishing on the west coast, where — always the biologist — he is volunteering at a fish hatchery.

FACULTY RETIREE



JOAN BRYANS, BA, PHD (UBC) retired this year after nine years teaching senior level Philosophy courses. Joan came to Kamloops from UBC when UCC began offering university degrees. She chaired the Philosophy, History and Political Science department and was instrumental in developing the Bachelor of Arts program for UCC in the early 1990s.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI 1999



*Cathy Ferguson, (BSN '91), Michael Meeks, (CSOM '85)
Missing from photo is Ralph Tedder, (UT '76)*

The UCC Alumni Association this year recognized three UCC alumni who have a national impact in sports, business and health care through their volunteer and professional activities.

Cathy Ferguson, the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award for Public Service, is the President of the BC Union of Nurses, a position she has held for one and a half years.

Cathy received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1991, after having worked across Canada and in Switzerland as an RN since 1975.

Before taking on the Presidency of the BC Nurses Union last year, Cathy

worked in the psychiatric unit at Royal Inland Hospital and was actively involved on provincial committees and boards.

Cathy has changed the public image of the BC Nurses Union in this province during her tenure as President as she has frequently appeared in the media to clearly explain the value of nurses' work and the need to reinvest in provincial health care. During this past year her name has become synonymous with nursing and with health-care issues that affect all provinces in Canada.

Cathy's philosophy is leadership by consensus and that nurses can be, and are, leaders in the health-care system.

Ralph Tedder, UT '76 and recipient of the Athletic Achievement Award, is the UCC Sun Demons men's soccer coach, a volunteer position he has held for nine years. In the fall of 1998, Ralph led the men's team to a national championship, a first for UCC.

Ralph coached young men's soccer in Kamloops from 1973 to 1988 before taking on the lead job at UCC. The Under 18 teams that Ralph coached won the Provincials three times and he took soccer teams to Great Britain to play in 1980 and 1984. He became an Assistant Coach for soccer at Cariboo College in 1981 and became the head coach of the Sun Demons in the early '90s.

Ralph's exceptional volunteer service to UCC and its athletic program, and to athletics in Kamloops over the past 26 years have been recognized in the past by the Kamloops Sports Council when he won the Coach of the Year, and when his national championship men's team won Team of the Year last year.

Michael Meeks, recipient of the Professional Achievement Award, is founder, president and principal shareholder of Riptide Technologies Inc. in Surrey, BC, a company that is just three and a half years old. What began as three people in a cramped office has grown to 65 employees and over \$8 million in revenue.

Michael came to Cariboo College after high school to study Computer Systems Operation Management. After graduating in 1985, he worked for BC Lotteries for a year, then moved to the States and worked for GTECH Corporation, the world's largest supplier of on-line lotteries. After moving back to BC, Michael started Riptide Technologies, a company that develops software for on-line lotteries such as 6/49, and on-line business systems software. Last year, Riptide won the BC Technology Industry Association's New Venture of the Year award, and won Enterprise Magazine's Business of the Year Award for companies with over 51 employees.

CAREER CONNECTIONS 2000 @ UCC is an excellent opportunity to explore jobs with local, regional and international companies. Admission is free.

Career Connections 2000

UCC Career Day, February 8 at the Campus Activity Centre. Employers — to get involved contact Michael Eibl at the Student Employment Centre at 371-JOBS.

UCC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1999-2000: EXECUTIVE: Marilyn Poncelet, (Bus. Adm. '89), Chair, Carolyn Hepburn, (BA '95), Vice-Chair, Tom McNulty, (Bus. Adm. '77), Secretary / Treasurer DIRECTORS: Denise Harper, (Comm Med. '74), Larry Iles, (BED '94), Joyce Irvine, (CSOM '91), Bill Jaswal (BA '91), Matt McLean, (BBA '96), Cindy Piva (UT '83), Susie Russo, (BBA '97), Flo Tyson, (BSN '91), Errol Wild, (Acct. Tech. '87), Rod Andrew, UCC Board of Governors, Robert Stewart, UCC Foundation Board.
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