



We acknowledge and respect the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and Esquimalt) Peoples on whose territory the university stands, and the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ Peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

& MESSAGE FROM UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN JONATHAN BENGTON



Photo: UVic Photo Services

Dear Friends,

UVic has one of the largest university art collections in Canada. In 2022, at the request of the Vice President External Relations following the retirement of Mary Jo Hughes, Director of the Legacy Galleries, an extensive review of the Legacy Galleries was undertaken. The review explored ways to realize the full potential of the university art collections and galleries, to guide decisions on

replacing the Director of the Legacy Gallery, to better understand the history of the university art collections, and to better understand current challenges and future opportunities. The review utilized a decolonizing methodology of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Chair, the Honourable Murray Sinclair. Adapted to meet the needs of the review, four questions guided the inquiry into the university's art collections and spaces: where did the Legacy come from, who is the Legacy, why is the Legacy here, and where is the Legacy going? Many themes emerged from the extensive consultations across campus, including the clear desire to see the university harness the power of arts and collections-based practices and the many tangible and intangible ways through which arts-based practice enriches on and off-campus communities.

In reviewing the report's 65 recommendations, the University Executive took an initial important step and, on April 1, 2024, moved the art galleries and collections from the VP External portfolio into the University Libraries within the VP Academic's portfolio. This was one of the primary recommendations of the report, which highlighted the advantages of strengthening the art collection's research, teaching, and learning role, and use in the curriculum. The move of the university art collections to the academic side of the university has been an on-and-off discussion spanning beyond the past decade and it is exciting to see this finally come to fruition. There is broad alignment between Libraries, Archives, Galleries, and Museums – often referred to as “GLAMs.” One of our first tasks in the coming months will be to hire a new Director, who will become part of the combined Libraries/Art Collections' executive team. I'd like to express my thanks to Caroline Riedel, acting Director, and the Legacy staff for their ongoing work and deep commitment to supporting arts and culture.

Very best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Riedel', written in a cursive style.

& POP-UP EXHIBIT



Photo: Youbin Seo

RAGING GRANNIES

by: Youbin Seo, Law Library Work Study Student

In February 2024, the Diana M. Priestly Law Library unveiled a new display that showcases the background, history, and accomplishments of the Raging Grannies nationwide and includes artifacts from the University of Victoria's Special Collections & University Archives.

Rooted in the desire to create a better world for future generations, the Raging Grannies simultaneously challenge and use the stereotype of old age. Composed of anthropologists, teachers, women in business, artists, homemakers, and librarians, the Raging Grannies were established through the collective concern over the nuclear reactors and their potential environmental and health impacts. The group quickly expanded to protests against sexism and ageism, then to a broader array of social and political issues such as homelessness, climate change, and LGBTQ+ rights.

The Raging Grannies fearlessly tackle injustice through non-violent and peaceful protesting. Their modes of protest are uniquely creative and humorous. Their most iconic method is crashing political

events by singing satirical lyrics set to classic tunes such as lullabies and nursery rhymes. They also dress in wildly stereotypical grandma-style outfits, often donning colourful and flamboyant hats and shawls. For one of their first actions in 1987, they protested uranium mining at the BC legislature by bringing a laundry basket full of women's underwear that contained "briefs." This whimsical gesture not only symbolized women's work but also offered a lighthearted critique to the typically formal and often pompous nature of such hearings.

The Grannies are still going strong today and have currently expanded to over 60 groups (or "gaggles" as they call them) across Canada and the United States. For more information, visit a [list of Raging Grannies websites and pages](#).

& AROUND THE LIBRARIES



LAW LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE

by: Sarah Miller, Law Librarian

On February 14, the [Diana M. Priestly Law Library](#) hosted its annual open house. This event was the first one since the pandemic and drew approximately 100 students over the course of the lunch hour. A pizza lunch was provided, and law students had the opportunity to learn about the services and resources of UVic Libraries, the UVic Law School, and legal information supports.

Students also could chat with representatives from several library departments, including:

- Staff from the Digital Scholarship Commons, who highlighted the variety of technology tools and hands-on workshops available for students.
- Staff from Scholarly Communications, who showcased UVic's open access resources,



[Learn more about Campus Kudos](#)

& ACROSS THE CAMPUS



Photo: Beth Bingham. Missing: Hannah Brown and Eli Pazder

on *THE VERGE* STUDENT WRITING SHOWCASE

Congratulations to the 2024 *on the Verge* writing contest winners, who read their submissions at the recently held Student Writing Showcase in front of a packed room.

Fiction:

1st place – Tessa Thevenot, “Red Cedar Confessionals of the Rich Man’s Sport”

2nd place – Eli Pazder, “University Newsletter, 20XX”

Honourable Mention – Parris Mook-Sang-Forbes, “Trial in Courtroom 12”

Poetry:

1st place – Cate Freeborn, “At 19, I am diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder”

2nd place – Nico Caparas, “Rich Colour Contrast”

Honorable Mention – Rita Bunrayong, “Sardine”

Non-Fiction:

1st place – Saule Olson, “Resuscitating Yourself”

2nd place – El Newell, “A Lesbian Walks into a Bra Store”

Honorable Mention – Alex Da Matta, “It Didn’t Affect Me”

Honorable Mention – Ruby Harris, “Milk, Honey, and The Dying Willow Tree”

Spoken Word:

1st place – Hannah Brown, “I am Me”

[Read their winning submissions](#)

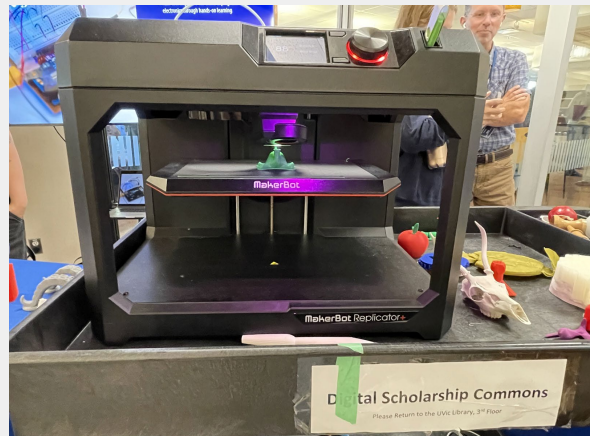


UVIC REACH AWARDS

Every year, UVic recognizes the contributions of teachers and researchers who lead the way in dynamic learning and meaningful impact through the REACH Awards.

Congratulations to Christine Welsh (Gender Studies), filmmaker of the recently released documentary [Lii Michif Niiyanaan](#), who will receive the ʔəy nəwəl ʔist | ÍY,NEUELIST | Moving forward together for the good of all Indigenous Scholar Award for Excellence in Research on May 2, 2024.

“These exciting awards allow us to acknowledge and celebrate faculty and graduate students who are creating significant impact in teaching, research and creative pursuits. This year’s 20 distinguished honourees are inspiring positive change in our communities through impactful research, and through their passion and dedication to



DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP COMMONS

Highlights from the [2023 Year in Review](#):

- 6,462 workshop participants, up 9% over 2022
- Most popular workshops: Generative AI for Educators, Data Analysis with Excel, Video Editing, Infographics, and Websites with WordPress
- The DSC workshop curriculum web pages were accessed 51,532 times over the year, which is up significantly from 19,095 in 2022. The global reach of the DSC continues to broaden with learners from all over the world.
- 392 informal credentials were issued for successful workshop completion
- New & upgraded workshops:
 - Academic Posters with Canva
 - Image Editing with Photopea
 - Survey creation in SurveyMonkey
 - Design for Laser Cutting

creative and innovative learning experiences for students. Congratulations to the award recipients and nominees and thank you for your commitment and leadership.”— UVic President and Vice-Chancellor Kevin Hall, PhD

- Data Visualization & Narrative Maps
- RStudio Data Analysis Introduction
- Coding with HTML & CSS

[Infographic summary](#)

[Learn more about the 2023 recipients](#)



FUN FACTS FROM FALL SEMESTER 2023

- [Mearns - McPherson Library](#)'s busiest day was September 20, 2023 (7,491 visits in a single day!)
- More than 321 workshops and classes were taught by library staff
- There were over 80,000 interactions at AskUs desks for the Mearns - McPherson Library and the Priestly Law Library
- Almost 4,000 library help questions were answered

& IN THE COMMUNITY



CONTINUING STUDIES AT UVIC
New programs are coming soon

Are you looking to refresh your skills or develop new ones to keep up with our changing world? We are working on a number of exciting new programs exploring the latest in a wide range of topics, taught in small-class and online learning environments. Our

Counting Codes via the Container Method
Amy Penney, Supervised by Dr. Natasha Morrison

Why Use an Error Correcting Code?
Suppose we want to communicate using binary strings of length n . We will call the set of strings that represent valid messages our code, and each string in this code a codeword. While our message can be received, some bits may be flipped from a 0 to a 1, or from a 1 to a 0. We would like to be able to correct such errors.

What is a t Error Correcting Code?
A t error correcting code guarantees that, as long as the message that it encodes is received, the receiver will always be able to recover the sent message.

How Can We Count the Number of Error Correcting Codes?
Counting the number of t error correcting codes is equivalent to counting the number of independent sets of a particular graph.

How Does the Container Method Work?
First we use a graph container algorithm to create a collection of edgegraphs, called containers, with the following properties:
1. Every independent set is contained in some container.
2. There are few containers.
3. There are few edges in each container.

What Do We Need to Apply the Container Method?
To use the container method, we must prove that if a subgraph has slightly more vertices than the largest independent set, then it contains a lot of edges.

What is the Container Method?
The container method is a technique used to upper bound the number of independent sets of a graph.

What Results Have Been Proven?
Let $\mathcal{C}(n, t)$ be the number of t error correcting codes. Then there are at most $2^{n - \Omega(n/t)}$ t error correcting codes.

What are r - (n, k, d) Codes?
Let $\mathcal{C}(n, k, d)$ be the number of r - (n, k, d) codes. Then there are at most $2^{n - \Omega(n/k)}$ r - (n, k, d) codes.

What is the Goal of this Project?
The goal of this project is to generalize previous results to count the number of r - (n, k, d) codes.

POSTER DESIGN WORKSHOP

We love helping students succeed!

“Incidentally, I saw the influence of your presentation on some of the math & stats students who presented their posters at the Faculty of Science Honours Fest. One of them went full-on #betterposter, and the poster that won top prize overall took a really unusual and graphically interesting approach for a math poster. I was really pleased with the posters in my graduate course as well - they were a bit more formal, which makes sense, but I saw some really bold designs as well.” - Jane

upcoming programs include *Tourism Sustainability, Post-Wildfire Ecology for Environmental Restoration, LiDAR Data for Climate Change Mitigation* and *Teaching the Holocaust*. Join our email lists and, and we'll notify you once details become available.

[Learn more](#)

Butterfield

[Read more](#)

& IN THE NEWS



Photo: Chad Hipolito

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

Congratulations to Ry Moran, Associate University Librarian - Reconciliation, who will receive an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of British Columbia in late May.

From the [UBC announcement](#):

"Ry Moran is a champion for Truth, Reconciliation and human rights domestically and abroad and is widely recognized as a visionary leader for building and sustaining relationships that advance equity, diversity, inclusion and Indigenous rights. As founding Director of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR), he was responsible for laying the strategic foundations of the organization. In his current role at the University of Victoria as the inaugural Associate University Librarian for Reconciliation, he actively works to create spaces for decolonized practices within the library and beyond."



Photo: Community-Based Research Laboratory (CBRL)

MAKING OUR WASTE VISIBLE

"I'm not just a garbage picker, I am somebody. I need something. I am worth something to the community. I bring something to the community." (Levi, Victoria Binner)



According to the 2021 CRD *Solid Waste Report*, the Capital Regional District (CRD) collected 190,000 tonnes of solid waste and 23,000 tonnes of recyclable materials. By 2045, the CRD landfill will be full. So how can we reduce our consumption and waste now?

Members of the community were invited to "Making Our Waste Visible," a conversation about waste management with insights from local [Diverters](#) (waste pickers), a non-profit

group that collects bottles and recycling materials and keeps waste out of the landfill. The complex issues associated with waste, locally and internationally, are impacting climate change and the world needs solutions now.

[Victoria News](#)

& OUR PEOPLE, YOUR LIBRARY



LAW LIBRARIAN SARAH MILLER RETURNS TO HER HAPPY PLACE

You are one of UVic's Law Librarians. What daily responsibilities do you oversee?

No two days are ever the same. Most days involve helping students – answering questions over email or having appointments and drop-ins. Depending on the day, I will work on answering questions over email and preparing for student appointments. During the semester, I will provide library sessions in classes and update research supports like videos and guides. Working on projects and on committees also keeps the days full and interesting.

Where else have you worked before starting this position?

My first position out of library school in 2018 was a six-month Young Canada Works intern position at the UVic Law Library. At the end of that position I was hired on as a limited-term law librarian from 2019 to 2022. I then worked as a Senior Librarian at the British Columbia Attorney General Law Library from 2022 to 2023 before happily returning to UVic Libraries in my current position this past August.



LIBRARIAN CAITLIN KEENAN BUILDS WEBSITES ONE WORD AT A TIME

As the new Web Integration Librarian, what does a typical day look like for you?

UVic Libraries' online presence includes a main website with 600+ pages, over 300 subject guides, and more than a dozen other content platforms providing access to millions of subscription resources, learning and training support materials for students and faculty, and information about our services. It's a lot!

My job is to make sense of all of the interconnections between those different platforms and resources and help shepherd us towards a consistent and comprehensible web presence that helps students and other library users find what they're looking for easily and efficiently. At the moment, my day-to-day involves a lot of planning documents, spreadsheets, and conversations with folk around the Libraries; shortly, the focus will shift to conducting user experience research with students and faculty from across the university in preparation for a major website redesign.

[Read the full interview with Caitlin](#)

[Read the full interview with Sarah](#)

& THE LAST STORY



INTERNSHIP REFLECTION

by: Talia Greene, Young Canada Works Intern

To do good work in libraries, you first need to understand your patrons and their needs. This lesson has become very clear to me while working at [UVic Libraries](#).

In my position as Learning, Engagement, and Communications Intern, I worked for seven months in a dual role, reporting to both the Director of Engagement and Learning and the Libraries' Communications Officer. For me, this internship has provided me with valuable insight into libraries and their users that will shape my future work as I finish up my Master of Library and Information Studies and start my career as a librarian.

During my time at UVic Libraries, I've consulted with over 1,200 students to learn about their experience of the library and to understand how we can better meet them where they are. This student feedback helps the Libraries assess our services and identify ways to improve. One theme that came up again and again from students was their desire to know more about what was available to them at the library. This was where my dual role in Engagement and Learning as well as Communications came in handy. Hearing from students that they were interested in learning about library resources propelled me to try to find ways to reach students in a way that speaks to them and reflects their priorities.

One of the first things students would say when I would ask them how they would like to learn about the library was [Instagram](#). I applied the feedback I was hearing from students to my approach to content creation for social media. Students expressed hesitancy to consult with librarians because

they found it intimidating, so I created a video [introducing each subject librarian in the style of an 80s sitcom](#). The video received over 25,000 views and received comments from students expressing their appreciation for the librarians.



[Click on image](#)

In a later student consultation, I received the best feedback: when I asked if the library felt welcoming or intimidating, a student told me that they thought it felt welcoming because of how it was presented on Instagram. This comment told me that I was achieving my goals of reducing library anxiety through presenting the library as friendly and welcoming on social media.

While at UVic Libraries, I realized how much student engagement and communications go hand-in-hand. All library services could benefit from promotion, and engaging with students can help us strategize student-first communications.

One of the benefits of this position was how it allowed me to learn about so many facets of the library, from [Special Collections](#) to the [Centre for Academic Communication](#) to the [Digital Scholarship Commons](#) and everything in between. I've made so many connections across departments, and the staff at the Libraries have made every day a joy. I feel so fortunate for this opportunity and for all the wonderful people I've met along the way.

I'm leaving this position with a passion for helping academic libraries connect with students, especially students facing barriers to library access. Libraries have so much to offer, and one of the major challenges can be communicating those services to the people who could benefit from them. Strong ties between library staff and the people we serve is the best way to ensure we are meeting their needs. I hope to continue this outreach and engagement work in my future career and strive to further develop strategies for connecting with library patrons.

A big thank you to the staff at UVic Libraries, and particularly to Karen and Lisa for their leadership and guidance. It's been a pleasure!



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