



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.

& CONVOCATION 2024



James P. Carley and Ann Hutchison at UVic Libraries Special Collections and University Archives Reading Room

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT: JAMES P. CARLEY, F.R.S.C.

Congratulations to [James P. Carley](#), UVic Libraries' nominee for a Doctor of Letters, who received

the honour at a spring convocation ceremony on June 13, 2024.

Dr. James P. Carley, born and raised in Victoria, graduated from the University of Victoria with a BA in English in 1969. He is recognized internationally as an exceptional scholar and historian, specializing in book history, manuscript culture, and medieval libraries.

Dr. Carley advised the graduating students, "very few positions follow a normal trajectory. Be ready for the unexpected and be confident when it comes. Your education at this university will help you walk a new path."

As a Fellow of the [Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies](#) in Toronto, Dr. Carley holds the position of Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus at York University, Toronto. He is an Honorary Professor at the University of Kent, Canterbury, an Honorary Research Fellow at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. Among his numerous accolades and accomplishments, he was the first Canadian ever to receive the UK's Bibliographical Society prestigious Gold Medal in 2019.

[Watch the recorded convocation.](#)

& MESSAGE FROM UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN JONATHAN BENGTON



Photo: UVic Photo Services

Dear Friends,

Summer has arrived and with it comes time to reflect on a busy and productive academic year in service to our students, faculty, and researchers. We also thank our many donors for their support of our activities. Over the coming year the Libraries will be renewing and refreshing our [Open, Engaged, Enduring strategic plan](#) to ensure we continue to move forward in alignment with the

needs of our users and the aspirations of our university. We hope you enjoy this issue of *The Ampersand* and wish you a wonderful summer.

Very best,



& PRIDE MONTH



UNAPOLOGETICALLY QUEER

by: Thembie Moyo, Writer (Creative Action and Digital Content), Equity and Human Rights Office, & Events Assistant Coordinator, UVic Libraries

The cherry blossom trees blooming in June at the University of Victoria create a beautiful backdrop for Pride month celebrations. It's as if nature is also rejoicing in the beauty of diversity and inclusivity. Pink petals a symbol of love, acceptance, grace and identity in every place.

From the Stonewall riots to present day, the journey has been long and challenging but the resilience and determination by the 2SLGBTQIA+ community has led to significant milestones. As a writer who is originally from Africa, I would say in my language that "It's not yet *uhuru*" - meaning that some of the countries are still lagging, or not accepting. There are many voices that need to be amplified with their stories and lived experience shared with the rest of the world. This is crucial for promoting understanding, empathy, and inclusivity.

The university's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion is truly commendable, and there were

many exciting events and initiatives that happened across campus this month like pronoun button-making and Drag Bingo.

To deepen our understanding and empathy, I recommend these 2SLGBTQAI+ books, available at the Mearns - McPherson Library: “*The picture of Dorian Gray*” by Oscar Wilde, “*A room of One’s Own*” by Virginia Wolf, “*Giovanni’s Room*” by James Baldwin, “*The Color Purple*” by Alice Walker and “*The memoirs of a beautiful boy*” by Robert Leleux.

I hope to see you at the [Victoria Pride Parade](#) on July 7! Let’s celebrate Pride and promote love, acceptance, and inclusivity for all.

Note: this story [originally appeared online](#) in early June. Some Pride events have already taken place.

& AROUND THE LIBRARIES



DISTANCE LEARNING & RESEARCH: TESTIMONIAL

"I am a proud three-degree holding alumni of UVic. As an alumni I have used the infoline office to have books sent to me here in Creston, B.C., in the middle of the Rockies. I have done over the years many in-depth research projects and my book needs are not those easily available.

I would like to register an official compliment to all the persons in the [infoline office](#) I've had contact with by phone and email over the years. They are so kind, helpful in specific ways, prompt, understanding, professional yet "human" and respond to my (attempts at) humor with humor. They seem to go out of their way to make me feel comfortable with my requests for books and articles.

I won't "name names" because there may be one or two names I've forgotten, but without exception it's always a pleasure and success when I make contact them with requests."



Photo: Megan Farrell

STORYTELLING IN OUR ARCHIVES

by: Rowan Watts, Lowens-Libraries Fellowship recipient

“Since I was working with theatre archives, I knew I had to actually make theatre. The end result was greater than I could have ever anticipated. Chris designed an entire soundscape for the performance. The actors only had two nights of rehearsal, but they brought an immense amount of energy and urgency to the text. We pretty much filled the house of about 40 seats. The playwright came and she said she loved it. After the reading, some people spoke out about how much telling the stories of marginalized people, especially women of colour, helped them.”

On April 18, UVic theatre students breathed life into the archives with a dramatic reading of Lina de Guevara’s play, “*Storytelling Our Lives*” (1998), held in the Special Collections & University Archives Reading Room. This poignant tale follows multiple women from diverse backgrounds as they navigate the



EXHIBIT: tr̓ar̓ iʔ sʔaxʷip - interwoven roots

Explore [tr̓ar̓ iʔ sʔaxʷip - interwoven roots](#) at the [Legacy Maltwood Gallery](#) (lower level of Mearns – McPherson Library) until March 31, 2025.

Inspired by childhood memories shared by Elder Jane Stelkia of the Osoyoos Indian Band, tr̓ar̓ iʔ sʔaxʷip explores the artistic and cultural legacy of a group of sukʷnaʔqinx (Okanagan) youth who attended the Inkameep Day School on the Osoyoos Indian Reserve in the Okanagan Valley during the World War II era.

hardships and obstacles of immigrating to Canada.

Starring Gabby Blake, Judy Caranto, Janina Ferrer, Ximena Garduño, and Julia Patterson, with sound design by Chris Stewart, and indispensable help from faculty and librarians, director Rowan Watts mounted this reading as the public-facing component of his Lowens-Libraries research. [The Lowens-Libraries Fellowship](#) enables students to create a project with rare and unique materials to mobilize the archive to the public.



STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS IMPACT FUND

The 2024-2025 Strategic Directions Impact Fund is designed to support initiatives and projects that advance UVic Libraries' strategic priorities and organizational values.

In 2024, 13 projects were funded for a total of \$75,730. [Learn more about the projects.](#)

& ACROSS THE CAMPUS



TRANSCRIPTS FROM THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

The Libraries has made physical copies of all the transcripts from the [Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples](#) available in the [Diana M. Priestly Library](#). While the transcripts and the five-volume [Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples](#) are currently available through an online database, the Libraries determined that printing the transcripts, and binding and shelving them as physical resources, would make this vital resource more visible and accessible to users. The transcripts are currently being displayed on the first floor of the Priestly Library.



PRIESTLY LIBRARY SOCIAL MEDIA

As of June 1, 2024, the Priestly Library Facebook and X (formerly Twitter) accounts will no longer be updated or maintained.

For all UVic Libraries updates, find us on:

- [Instagram](#)
- [X \(Twitter\)](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Web](#)

Sign up to [The Ampersand](#) to keep up-to-date.

& IN THE COMMUNITY



SUMMER ART SERIES



IMMIGRANT AND CULTURE AFFAIRS VISIT AND TOUR

UVic Libraries and the Inter-Cultural Association of BC (ICA) collaborated on an initiative to offer immigrants and refugee

Our Summer Art Series is back in July 2024, with workshops and lectures focusing on art and urban landscapes. Learn from experts on how art transforms our experience of the world and the way we engage with one another.

These workshops are open to learners of all backgrounds and include drawing in the urban landscape, soundscape appreciation and creation, and urban spaces in place-based fiction. A Victorian Medievalism walking tour will also be available to take part in. All instructors are UVic alumni.

The Summer Arts Series is offered by the Division of Continuing Studies, in partnership with the Faculty of Fine Arts and Alumni Relations at the University of Victoria.

[Learn More](#)

participant cohorts an opportunity to learn about Indigenous history. Led by [Aditi Gupta, Engineering & Science Librarian](#), the initiative aimed to provide access to academic resources, fostering a sense of belonging. Participants met Ry Moran, Associate University Librarian - Reconciliation at the First Peoples House, who gave participants an introduction to Indigenous-settler relations in Canada, and how the country has begun to implement UNDRIP policies into federal mandates. Ry also provided participants with a basic introduction of Canadian Indigenous-settler reconciliation, which allowed them to understand what is currently taking place across the country.

In addition, participants were offered a brief tour of UVic Libraries with an opportunity to overcome barriers such as discrimination and limited resource access by offering them a [community borrower card](#). This effort will hopefully empower them to integrate into their new community more effectively.

PETER AND ANA LOWENS UVIC LIBRARIES STUDENT FELLOWS



REFLECTIONS ON TRANS SCHOLARSHIP AND DIGITAL HUMANITIES FROM A LOWENS FELLOW

by: *Sky Dragushan, Lowens-Libraries Fellow*

This past Spring semester, I took part in the [Peter and Ana Lowens University of Victoria Libraries Special Collections Fellowship Program](#). This research fellowship is based in Special Collections and University Archives at UVic Libraries. In addition to completing a research project, I participated in workshops on Book History, Exhibition Design, and Archival Theory with the rest of my cohort.



POINTS OF VIEW: SPECULATING A CHINESE CANADIAN ARCHIVE

by: *Maya Wei Yan Linsley, Lowens-Libraries Fellow*

Fall of 2021. I'm in my second year of an English major and first year of in-person university, eager to jump on any opportunity that comes my way but clueless as to what I'd do with any of it. I stumble my way through a research assistant position with Dr. Janelle Jenstad, get lost in Clearihue, and sustain myself with tri-weekly walks to the nearest Fairway Market. Somehow, between trying to figure out what I'm doing with my life and

Along with the guidance of Heather Dean, Associate Director of Special Collections, Lowens Fellows received further mentorship from a librarian mentor and Faculty mentor. I completed the Lowens Fellowship in my third year of an Art History and English degree, hoping to eventually complete my Masters of Archival Studies and Library Studies. My research interests include the intersection of queer theory and library studies, which is partly why I enjoyed my project so much!

I researched the publication history of the [FTM newsletters](#), held in Special Collections & University Archives. “FTM,” or “Female-to-Male,” was a periodical for trans masculine peoples and issues, that published newsletters from 1987–2008. *FTM* was created by Lou Sullivan and later spearheaded by Jamison Green and additional volunteers. I curated an online and physical exhibition introducing *FTM*, titled [Unearthing Transmasculine Histories](#), currently displayed on [my Omeka site](#) and in the Special Collections Reading Room. My physical exhibit will remain in the Reading Room until it closes in August 2024.

[Read more about Sky's project](#)

trying to pretend I already know, I discover the [Peter and Ana Lowens University of Victoria Libraries Special Collections Student Fellowship](#). Dr. Jenstad encourages me and supports my application, I prepare for weeks to submit a proposal, and I get a very kind rejection letter in response.

Fast forward to the fall of 2023. I'm no closer to knowing what I want from life but much better at faking it. On the bus to campus one morning, I'm struck by the realization that yet another Lowens deadline is two days away. (The view of Cadboro Bay from the 11 bus tends to produce startling mental results). My degree will end in the spring: what do I have to lose by trying again? But what would I even put on a proposal, when my Honours essay and my JCURA poster are already the same topic?

Then it hits me: the Chinese Canadian Collection. With a Lowens Fellowship, I could get my hands all over that—something I've wanted to do for ages. I draft a hurried proposal as soon as I get off the bus; Dr. Luke Carson kindly makes it coherent. You've read this far, so it should be clear how that turned out.

[Read more about Maya's project.](#)

UVic News: "[An archive of their own](#)"

& IN THE NEWS



Chancellor-Designate Shelagh Rogers in the CFRC radio studio on the Queen's campus. (Photo: Johnny C. Y. Lam)

SHELAGH ROGERS

Congratulations to Shelagh Rogers, UVic Chancellor Emerita and an [Honorary Librarian](#) of UVic Libraries, who has been named Queen's University's next Chancellor. We wish you all the best!

[Read the story about Shelagh](#)



Photo: Chad Hipolito

MATT HUCULAK

Congratulations to Dr. Matt Huculak, Head, Advanced Research Services, for being named one of Library Journal's "[Movers and Shakers](#)" for 2024, among 10 winners in the "Educators" category. This high-profile award recognizes librarians from around the world who are helping to define the future of the profession in innovative and creative ways.

The new class of Movers and Shakers, showcased in LJ's May print 2024 issue and online, represent an inspiring sample of the work being done in and around libraries today. They are developing programming for patrons



Photo: Philip McLachlan

JOURNALISM AWARD

Congratulations to Kristen de Jager, UVic Libraries Publishing and Communications Assistant, on her Canadian Association of Journalists (CAJ) award nomination in Labour Reporting for her article in the Tyee titled [Choked Out: The Wildfire Smoke Threat to Tree planters](#).

Tyee announcement:

Aldyn Chwelos, Kristen de Jager and Paul Voll have been nominated for a CWA Canada/CAJ Award for Labour Reporting for their piece on an increasing threat to the health and safety of tree planters: wildfire smoke. This joint investigation by The Tyee and the Climate Disaster Project revealed that the regulations in place for outdoor workers during Canada's wildfire seasons haven't done enough to protect labourers, who were sometimes stuck in "drowning smoke."

CAJ announcement:

"In a time when journalism is so frequently brought under assault by those who seek to undermine the public's right to know, this year's CAJ Awards finalists showcase the

with disabilities, providing a place to land after school for teens, creating and restoring balance to their boards, connecting libraries with federal funding, helping design sustainable facilities, teaching community members how to archive their collections, battling censorship attempts, and more—the 50 individuals profiled demonstrate 50 different ways to move library values forward.

Matt is recognized for his work as a research collaborator on the Narrative Art and Visual Storytelling in Human Rights and Holocaust Education project, and for his leadership in developing digital exhibits that provide context and narrative around library collections.

[Read about Matt's award](#)

dynamic power of storytelling and the vital public service journalists serve in holding the powerful to account,” said Brent Jolly, president of the CAJ.

& OUR PEOPLE, YOUR LIBRARY



UVic Grants and Awards Librarian Christine Walde, Ry Moran, and UVic University Librarian Jonathan Bengtson

RY MORAN

Congrats to Ry Moran, Associate University Librarian - Reconciliation – a champion and visionary leader for Truth, Reconciliation and human rights in Canada and abroad – who received an [honorary doctoral degree](#) from the University of British Columbia on May 28.



ADITI GUPTA

Congratulations to Aditi Gupta, Engineering and Science Librarian whose team-based research has been accepted for publication with College and Research Libraries.

"Marginalized Graduate Students Navigating the Academy During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Phenomenological Approach" examines "marginalized graduate students' use of academic libraries for research activities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Using a phenomenological approach, this study investigated the challenges, barriers, and coping strategies of marginalized graduate students from three Canadian universities. Focus groups were conducted to stimulate discussions and gather rich data from participants. Based on findings, this study



Barney Williams, Ry Moran, UVic Chancellor Emerita Shelagh Rogers, and Carey Newman

offers several recommendations for inclusive spaces, accessibility across institutions, bridging divides, and more to address service gaps and improve library access for all users.”

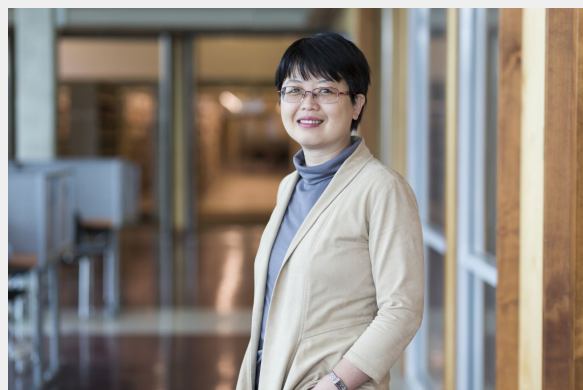
[Read the open access story.](#)



INBA KEHOE

Congratulations to Dr. Inba Kehoe, Head, Scholarly Communications & Copyright Officer, who successfully defended her doctoral dissertation, "*The Second Wave: The Impact of Digital and Open Practices on Faculty Scholarship in Higher Education.*"

Check it out in [UVicSpace](#).



YING LIU

Ying Liu, Humanities Librarian (Asian Studies, Linguistics & Religious Studies), is featured in *Inside Major East Asian Library Collections in North America, Volume 2*, [Library and Information Sciences](#).

[Read the interview](#)

& THE LAST STORY



"Fountain proposal," William D. (Bill) West fonds, AR236, accession # 1996-012, file 2.1

THE UNBUILT CAMPUS: WILLIAM WEST'S MACLAURIN FOUNTAIN

by: Lara Wilson, Director, Special Collections & University Archivist

The founding of University of Victoria over 60 years ago was marked by a campus with a distinct modernist art and architectural style. Notable buildings, public art and other features from the early decades are still seen today, including: [George Norris sculptural panels](#) on the Mearns Centre for Learning - McPherson Library façade, Elza Mayhew bronze sculptures, Herbert Siebner's exterior details and interior mural at the Student Union Building, the West Coast modern aesthetic of [Alan Hodgson's MacLaurin Building](#), and remaining mid-century modernist furniture. Professor Martin Segger - UVic Libraries distinguished alumnus, architectural historian, and past University Art Collections Director - has celebrated the significance of the campus modernist program through the Victoria Modern exhibitions and accompanying [catalogues](#).

Clearly, many projects for the modernist campus were realized, however, the University Archives holds a tantalizing document depicting an unbuilt feature designed by William D. (Bill) West: a proposed fountain in the courtyard of the MacLaurin Building (also known as the education arts complex).



Bill West in his office at the Phoenix Theatre, 1985. Images scanned from the Archives Historical Photograph Collection, contact sheet item # 087.0107

[Bill West](#) was a beloved art teacher and theatre designer. He attended the Vancouver School of Art, and Vancouver Normal School. Beginning in 1951, he taught art at Central Junior High School, Victoria College, and the Vancouver School of Art, and led the Art Department at Oak Bay High School. West also designed sets for theatrical productions for Victoria College and University of Victoria Department of English. He was appointed as a professor in the University of Victoria Department of Theatre in 1973. In addition to his numerous set designs, West helped design the Phoenix Theatre Building. He retired in 1985 and passed away in 2007.

The proposal for the MacLaurin fountain is dated September 1966; it consists of West's conception of the fountain, a detailed drawing of the installation with description of its parts, and a site plan. The fountain featured concrete pillars and articulated metal elements, and a pump for recirculating water. The circular brick planters visible in West's proposal are still in the MacLaurin courtyard today. While the fountain was not built, an indication of what might have been can be seen in West's [Alex Calder-inspired three-storey mobile in the stairwell of the Clearihue building](#). The proposal is a part of [West's archival fonds](#), AR236, which also includes examples of his many theatre set plans, the design for the University's flag, and the Chief Dan George Theatre.

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