



Earth and Environmental Sciences Chair Michael Wilson's research made the top 10 of Discover's top 100 science stories of 2008.

Homegrown research gets international ink

Paleontological research by Earth and Environmental Sciences Chair Michael Wilson was recognized by *Discover* magazine as one of the top 100 science stories of 2008. And it all started with Scholarly Activity Funding, says Wilson.

"The seed money for this project came from Scholarly Activity Funding. It was crucial in getting it all moving," he says. The findings of Wilson, along with Washington research consultants Steve Kenady and Randall Schalk, were first published in *Quaternary Research* last November.

The research examined fossil bison from Orcas Island in Puget Sound. One fossil was dated as being nearly 14,000 years old and showed evidence suggesting butchering by humans. This makes it one of the earliest indications of human presence in North America.

Discover made note of the story and featured the trio's findings in its January 2009

issue. Their research was part of "Coming to the Americas," a group of discoveries rated together as No. 10 in *Discover's* top 100 stories.

Wilson encourages his colleagues to apply for Scholarly Activity Funding, noting that in his case, it was only the start. His team has since received funding from the Orcas Island Historical Museum and the UBC Zoology Museum.

"Research puts Douglas College on the map and feeds my enthusiasm in the classroom. Science is discovery, discovery is fun, and here at Douglas we are discovering things."

Applications for Scholarly Activity Funding are due to the Vice President Education's office by 4:30pm on February 16.

For more information, contact Scholarly Activity Coordinator Tom Whalley at 604-527-5818 or whalleyt@douglas.bc.ca.

Student research to be showcased

Douglas College student research will be featured during the first College-wide Student Researchers' Day on March 31.

The idea for the event was first conceived at an undergraduate research institute attended by several Douglas instructors last Spring, says Scholarly Activity Coordinator Tom Whalley.

Research will be presented on posters by students from a variety of disciplines.

"Instructors are not being asked to cherry-pick only the very 'best' of their students' research to showcase. The

aim of the day is to have students sharing with each other what they have learned as developing researchers. Works in progress may also be included," says Whalley.

Sport Science instructor Ken Anderson is currently working with a group of students on a project investigating whether or not the popular Wii Fit video games give participants tangible health benefits.

Anderson's fourth-year Bachelor of Physical Education students are also working on group research in class. Projects include a

runners' study comparing how listening to music they like and don't like impacts the participant's performance. His students will be submitting their projects for consideration for the March event.

"In conducting research, students get an opportunity to contribute to the available knowledge base instead of just accessing it," says Anderson.

Watch for a series of bulletins on GroupWise providing information on application procedures and other details.

College and community explore Woodlands

A series of events exploring the social and historic relevance of the former Woodlands School taking place at Douglas College in March is "a remarkable opportunity for students, the College and the community to come together," says Theatre Coordinator Allan Lysell.

The project is a multi-departmental effort. Lysell is directing *Imperfect*, a play written by former Creative Writing chair Mary Burns, with original music by Music instructor Doug Smith. The production is inspired by stories about Woodlands and other institutions. Lori Woods, coordinator for both the Behavioural

Interventionist and Classroom and Community Support programs, is helping organize supplementary discussions which will also take place at the New Westminster Campus.

"The people and expertise at this college are an enormous resource," says Lysell, adding that it would have been "impossible" to create a comprehensive project without inter-departmental co-operation.

Woodlands School was a provincial institution in New Westminster from 1950-1996. Its residents ranged from children who were labeled with mental disorders, to those who were unwanted.

Woodlands survivors say physical and sexual abuse by staff was rampant. A class action suit against the provincial government is currently on hold.

An exhibit by New Westminster photographer and artist Michael de Courcy, "Dead and Buried: The Cemetery at Woodlands" is another key part of the project, running in the Amelia Douglas Gallery from March 5 to April 4, with an opening reception on March 5 from 4:30-7:30pm.

Read more about *Imperfect* in next month's issue of INside. Contact 604-521-5050 for tickets, which go on sale this month.

Nursing instructors laud 'pioneer'

Retired Douglas Nursing instructor Sherry Soball passed away on January 7. Her colleagues recall her dedication to students and her role in ensuring they got the best education available.

"Sherry was valued and appreciated for her dedication to nursing education excellence. She was one of the early 'pioneers' who worked on implementing WebCT for the Department of Nursing and served as a champion for this new innovation with

students and faculty," says Health Sciences Dean Mike Tarko.

Colleague and friend Marilyn Lewthwaite worked with Soball for 30 years. Lewthwaite credits her as "instrumental in getting nursing simulation off the ground at Douglas."

Soball started teaching Nursing on contract with Douglas in 1976. She joined the department full-time in 1993, retiring in 2006. She continued to work with the department on a contract-

basis until last Fall.

"Sherry lived her philosophy of caring with students and faculty everyday as she was a strong advocate for students and faculty always. Her physical presence will be deeply missed," says Tarko.

A celebration of life will be held in Soball's honour at a later date. Memorial donations to the Canadian Cancer Foundation and the Heart and Stroke Foundation are being made in Soball's name.

Events Calendar

February 5

The Arts at One presents *Saxophilia*
David Branter, Julia Nolan, Colin MacDonald and Tony Sheppard
1pm, Laura C. Muir Performing Arts Theatre

February 12

The Arts at One presents *Music for Voice and Guitar*
Erica Northcott, soprano and Michael Strutt, guitar
1pm, Laura C. Muir Performing Arts Theatre

February 17 & 19

The Alumni Association presents Alumni Marketplace
7-9pm

Tuesday, Feb 17, David Lam Campus atrium

Thursday, Feb 19, New Westminster Campus concourse

February 19

The Arts at One presents *Scholarship Winners Concert*
1pm, Laura C. Muir Performing Arts Theatre

February 26

The Arts at One presents *Student Showcase Recital*
1pm, Laura C. Muir Performing Arts Theatre

Campus life boosted

The Centre for Sport, Recreation and Wellness (CSRW) officially launched its new mandate last month, with an eye to boosting the profile of activities available to Douglas employees and students.

"We're looking at changing the culture of campus life at Douglas," says CSRW Director Dean Howie. The result is more activities, special events and revived intramural sports this semester.

"It's proven that healthy, happy employees are more productive. Participating in activities gives you a great opportunity for social networking and meeting

people outside the confines of your office."

Special events kicked off in December, with a free shuttle bus from New Westminster Campus to the recently-opened Richmond Olympic Oval.

Coming this month are the World Sledge Hockey Tournament and the Snowboard Cross Event. Howie advises employees to watch for information on Douglas activities, including more at pre-Olympic test events this semester, at douglascollege.ca/csrw. For more information, to reserve a spot or to offer feedback, please contact the CSRW at 604-527-5775.

Drop, cover, hold

No, it's not the Occupational Health and Safety committee's advice regarding the stock market. It's about being prepared for a real emergency. Review what to do during and after an earthquake, whether at work, on the road or at home. Get familiar with the advice "Drop, Cover, Hold." For details, see: getprepared.gc.ca/knw/ris/eq-eng.aspx

Listening lab gets new look and technology

The listening lab used by English as a Second Language (EASL) students got a much-needed makeover this Winter.

Before the Christmas break, each desk had partitions and a clunky cassette player. Today, each desk is outfitted with a sleek laptop. And those partitions are history.

"The equipment was very old. It was here when I started teaching at Douglas in 1989," says EASL instructor Kate Yoshitomi. "More and more publishers are moving to

CDs. We had to adapt."

One student who had never seen a cassette player asked if it was new, cutting-edge equipment. "She was so young that she had no idea that it was old technology," says Education Technology Facilitator Michelle Henderson.

About 175 students are using the lab on a weekly basis. This number will increase next semester as the room can now also be used for reading and writing classes.

Students have more flexibility to be creative with their assignments, using sound and video clips they find online. Instructors are also enjoying this flexibility, says Yoshitomi.

"We can better incorporate current events into our lessons," she says.

Another welcome improvement was getting rid of the desk partitions.

"It's a lot friendlier and more welcoming," says Yoshitomi.

Mark your calendars: Celebration of Teaching, Learning, Research and Scholarly Activity showcase

The 4th Annual Celebration of Teaching, Learning, Research and Scholarly Activity is a College-wide event to showcase faculty research activities, celebrate mutual efforts to engage students in a dynamic learning environment and recognize those involved in the development of new Douglas College programs. It is also an opportunity to invite counsellors and teachers from feeder-school districts to view the informative displays and see first-hand the many exciting educational activities taking place at Douglas College.

Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 21 from 4-6:30 pm. For the first time, this year's event will be held in the David Lam Campus atrium, and will be alternated between the David Lam and New Westminster campuses in subsequent years. Whether you participate as an observer or an exhibitor, plan to join your colleagues and celebrate excellence at Douglas College. Watch your email for a call for exhibitors and further event details.

Briefly

Looking for something sweet for your Valentine? The Dental Assisting Program is selling Purdy's chocolates to raise funds for five of its students to do a practicum in Uganda in April. You'll find a selection of goodies Valentine's week in the atriums of both campuses. Prices start as low as \$2. Fair-trade organic coffee is also on offer at the David Lam Campus.

The Douglas College Alumni Association now has Distinguished Alumni Award nomination packages available for 2009. Deadline for nominations is March 2. Contact **Andrew Senjack** at 604-777-6171 or e-mail at senjacka@douglas.bc.ca for more information.

Event magazine's popular annual book sale is set for March 2-5 in the concourse at the New Westminster Campus.

Event welcomes donations of books, CDs, VHS, DVDs and magazines for the fundraising sale.

Drop off donations in front

of the Performing Arts Office, 3308A at the New Westminster Campus or send them to the *Event* office, 3322 New Westminster Campus. The Foundation office at the David Lam Campus is also collecting donations. Contact *Event* at 604-527-5293 or event@douglas.bc.ca for more information.

See clearly in the New Year with the help of the Vision Centre at Douglas College. Call **Hanna** or **Wendy** at 604-777-6108 for details on the Vision Centre's \$99 promo.

The Vision Centre is also promoting its students' study group. They are looking for 50 candidates for free contact lenses. To find out if you qualify, call and leave a message at 604-777-6004.

English as a Second Language instructor **Tom Whalley** will remain Scholarly Activity Coordinator for an additional three-year term, starting September, 2009. As a member of the Centre for Academic and Faculty Development team, he will

support the implementation of the College Academic Plan and the Research and Scholarly Activity Strategic Directions.

Dean Howie, director of the Centre for Sport, Recreation and Wellness, has been re-appointed as the head coach for the 2009 Canadian National U12 Soccer team. This will be Howie's seventh year as head coach. The team is participating in the Danone Nations Cup Tournament, a 40-country World Cup for 12-year-old soccer players. This year's event is in Brazil.

The Centre for Students with Disabilities offers its congratulations to Learning Specialist **Dr. Maria Iaquinta**, who recently became accredited as a Registered Psychologist.

In the Centre for Educational and Information Technology, **Arne Lund** rejoins the College as Website Designer/Trainer. In Facilities, **Terry Alexander** moves from auxiliary to regular as Building Services

Worker. **Ken Perepolken** moves from auxiliary Building Services Worker to regular Mail Clerk, replacing **Holly Perkins**. Perkins is the new Performing Arts Assistant in the Faculty of Language, Literature and Performing Arts, replacing **Bonnie Bauder** who has taken early retirement.

In Finance, **Eligio DiFonzo** joins the College as Budget Analyst, replacing **Claire Turner** who moved to The Training Group.

In Health Sciences, **Virginia Towers** moves to Program Assistant II for the Perinatal Program in Continuing Education at the David Lam Campus.

At International Education, **Sachiko Sunaga** is the new International Education Advisor (Japanese).

In Purchasing, **Mary-Kate Gibbs** moves from auxiliary to regular as Purchasing Clerk. **Monica Rosales** moves from auxiliary to regular as Buyer.

The Registrar's Office offers its congratulations to Scheduling Supervisor **Shelly Graff**, who welcomed granddaughter

Keira Violet to her family on November 26, 2008. Also in the Registrar's Office, **Adam Klein** moves from auxiliary to permanent Information Services Assistant.

In Science and Technology, **Shehnika Dossani** moves from auxiliary to regular as Math Assistant.

The Sport Science Department bids farewell to instructor **Paul Kennedy**, who accepted a position in the Kinesiology Department at UBC. He will continue to be involved in Sport Science research projects, but his colleagues report that he will be missed daily at Douglas.

At The Training Group, **Diane Thompson** moves from auxiliary to regular as Program Assistant for the Self Employment Program at the New Westminster campus. **Sue Rodgers** joins the The Training Group as Administrative Officer at the David Lam Campus.