PETER WALLINSTITUTE FOR A D V A N C E D S T U D I E S

ANNUAL REPORT

2007



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The Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies supports basic research through interdisciplinary initiatives that have the potential to make important advances in knowledge. The Institute brings together researchers from the University of British Columbia with distinguished scholars from around the world to conduct fundamental researchdrawinguponand contributing to a widerange of diverse disciplines. The Institute aims to create a community of scholars, composed of outstanding researchers across the whole campus, who will contribute significantly to the intellectual life of the University. Of overriding concern in all Institute activities is excellence in research characterized by being fundamental, interdisciplinary, innovative, and unique.

"

— Board of Trustees
April 1998

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Background: Masters of Science Tapestry (Detail)
Photograph taken in the Charles Woodward Memorial Room,
Woodward Medical Library, University of British Columbia

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Photograph courtesy of Andrea Byrom

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Brett Finlay with Governor General Michaëlle Jean at Rideau Hall, February 9, 2007



Dianne Newell, Richard
Schrock, Massachusetts
Institute of Technology, Nobel
Prize in Chemistry 2005, and
Frank Talke, Center for
Magentic Recording Research,
University of California, San
Diego, at the first meeting of the
International Board of Trustees,
Institute for Advanced Study,
Technical University of Munich,
Germany, January 22, 2007.

Director's Message

The report year began and ended with events that featured the Peter Wall Distinguished Professor, Brett Finlay, who in the summers of 2006 and 2007 entertained Faculty Associates with his jazz sextet and woodwind quintet and was the recipient of Institute honours for his outstanding and many research accomplishments. Transitions of various kinds marked the middle of the period. January featured a transition lunch with farewells to our venerable interim director for 2006, Olav Slaymaker, and to our 2006 group of Distinguished Scholars in Residence. It also marked both my return as fulltime director and the arrival of the 2007 group of Distinguished Scholars in Residence. January also was the mid-point in the term of the Junior and Senior cohorts of the 17 Early Career Scholars for



2006-2007, who, like the Scholars in Residence, were an extraordinary group of researchers from across campus.

Former residential scholars have proven to be among our most active and engaged Faculty Associates. In order to soften the sense of loss that inevitably occurs after the cohorts of residential scholars complete their term, I have initiated an annual alumni dinner for the Distinguished Scholars in Residence and the Early Career Scholars, respectively. Chances to meet at the Faculty Associates Forums we host twice monthly and ongoing opportunities to apply for Exploratory Workshop and other grants also help to promote and maintain a sense of community amongst former residential scholars and the larger body of Faculty Associates.

The exceptionally high standard of Exploratory Workshop grant applications in the October and March competitions was rewarded with an equally high success rate: a total of ten awards have been made. Of these, three awardees have already submitted or will submit a letter of intent for a Major Thematic Grant. The workshops and other Interdisciplinary projects and events this year have tackled an extraordinary range of leading edge topics - everything from song as a container for information about human communication, cognition, and neuroscience and the root causes of violence, to how the human brain and spinal cord interact with the real world through the senses and muscles, to the complicated impact that the contemporary state of war is having on Asia and the Pacific.

External collaborations with individual researchers and with research institutions and centres continued to advance the reputation of the Peter Wall Institute for fundamental, interdisciplinary research, with more planned for the coming year. For example, Professor Roald Hoffman, who won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1981 and is also a poet and playwright, has accepted an appointment as Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor in 2008. His first visit will be in March, for the performance of his new play, "Should've," at UBC's Frederic Wood Theatre. The Institute's renovation of the top floor of the residential annex to create administrative and program offices over the winter of 2007-2008 will allow us to expand our Distinguished UBC Scholar in Residence program to include a few international scholars.

Thousands of people a year continue to view our programs and awards online and, importantly, to download our annual report (with a monthly record of 1,200 downloads in January). As a result of the Institute's growing reputation, I have been appointed to the International Board of Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study at the Technical University of Munich. TUM, which is in the vanguard of the changes occurring in post-secondary education in Germany, employed the Peter Wall Institute as one of the key models for its new institute. Our evolving connection with the TUM-IAS and with the network of international distinguished scholars and research institutes represented on the Board of Trustees presents exciting long-term opportunities for the Peter Wall Institute.

Once again, the Wall Summer Institute for Research (WSIR), in 2007 co-directed by Mark Zacher of UBC and Janice Stein, Director of the Munk Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto, was a great success. It has strengthened collaborations not only with the Munk Centre but also the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, which will co-host the follow-up WSIR retreat in October 2007. The WSIR gala event at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts featured a talk by Dr. James Orbinski, who in 1999 accepted the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of Médecins Sans Frontières, and represents our first truly public showcasing of the Peter Wall Institute in Vancouver. WSIR 2008 is already organized for June, with the follow-up research retreat to take place in China in the summer of 2009.

We would not be positioned to expand our horizons without the vision and sustained financial support of our benefactor Peter Wall; our unique position within UBC; the advice of the Advisory Committee; the talents of staff members Jenny MacKay and Markus Pickartz; and the constant support and interest of our Board of Trustees. UBC President Professor Steven J. Toope took over as Chair of the Board this past year with a lucid sense of understanding what the Institute is all about, and Trustees Sonya Wall and Robert Lee have played important roles in the planned renovation of the residential annex, for which I am most grateful.

It has been an especially lively and productive year with exciting prospects for the year to come.

Residential Programs

The residential programs at the Peter Wall Institute bring together distinguished researchers from the University of British Columbia and occasionally around the world to spend time in residence at the Institute. These residencies, ranging in term from one week to one year, encourage the interaction of scholars from a variety of disciplines as they explore new research directions.

For the most part, these programs are deliberately non-thematic. The scholars are selected on the basis of their individual expertise and interests rather than their disciplinary background. While there are planned activities and workshops intended to bring people together, there is no expectation of a particular end product, specific research topic, or common theme. The exception to this general framework is the Wall Summer Institute for Research (see page 22).

Peter Wall Distinguished Professor

This endowed chair is intended to attract or retain a world-class scholar for appointment as Peter Wall Distinguished Professor. Such a scholar can be expected to have a major impact on broad areas of scholarly work at UBC. The endowment provides salary support for a renewable five-year term. The program was established in 1994, originally as two endowed chairs. After the October 2000 passing of Michael Smith, 1993 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, and the earlier resignation of Raphael Amit from UBC, there was no one in this position until July 2002. At that time Dr. Brett Finlay was appointed as the third Peter Wall Distinguished Professor. In her remarks at the gala reception for Dr. Finlay in November of that year, Dr. Martha Piper, UBC President, described the Peter Wall Distinguished Professorship as "UBC's most prestigious honour."



Brett Finlay
Professor, Biochemistry
& Molecular Biology, and
Microbiology & Immunology,
Faculties of Medicine and Science

Dr. Finlay, FRSC, holds appointments at the Michael Smith Laboratories and in the Departments of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and Microbiology & Immunology at UBC. The University recruited Dr. Finlay as an Assistant Professor in 1989 and appointed him Peter Wall Distinguished Professor in July 2002.

Dr. Finlay's areas of research interest and accomplishment include host-parasite interactions of pathogenic bacteria, especially enteric bacteria, and pioneering the use of polarized epithelial cells as models to study pathogenic bacteria penetrating through epithelial barriers. Research in his lab is focused on understanding bacterial pathogenesis from the perspective of both pathogen and host. Dr. Finlay is co-founder, VP for Research, and Chair of the Scientific and Medical Advisory Board of Inimex Pharmaceuticals, Inc., whose mission it is to develop new therapies for infectious diseases.

In addition to chairing the Canadian SARS Research Consortium, Dr. Finlay continues in his role as Director of the \$2.6 million BC SARS Accelerated Vaccine Initiative (SAVI), whose mission since its founding in May 2003 has been to identify and develop a human SARS vaccine as rapidly as possible. The project has been immensely successful, demonstrating that rapid response research and emergency management could be applied to research problems. The team produced three vaccine candidates within six months, and within a year tests showed their efficacy in relevant animal models.

From this experimental setting, Dr. Finlay has involved himself in broadening this line of research at UBC, expanding it to the area of emerging infectious diseases generally. His interactions at the Peter Wall Institute have encouraged him to include the social sciences and humanities in forums about emerging infectious disease research at UBC. He also is the lead investigator on several emerging infectious diseases grants that include many UBC investigators. He is in year two of his \$10,000,000 Gates Foundation grant (Gates Grand Challenge) for the project "Novel Therapeutics that Boost Innate Immunity to Treat Infectious Diseases."

Dr. Finlay is an active participant in Institute functions and meets regularly with the various Associates and Scholars in Residence and from time to time, with Early Career Scholars and visitors to the Institute. His recently established Wall Woodwind Quintet is made up of Institute Faculty Associates. It holds regular rehearsals at the Institute and along with Brett's jazz band, performed at an Associates' dinner forum in July 2006. The jazz band performed at an Associates' special event in June 2007. He has worked very closely with Director Dianne Newell and the Peter Wall Advisory Committee, of which he is vice-chair, regarding various aspects of Institute programming. He represented the Institute at many national and international talks and meetings. He also continues to win prestigious prizes, awards, and recognition, including most recently the Order of British Columbia and the Peter Wall Institute Trustees' Prize for Exceptional Merit in Advanced Research; the latter was awarded on July 13, 2007 at a special gala event co-sponsored by the Peter Wall Institute and the Wall Financial Corporation.

Distinguished Scholars in Residence

This program was developed to bring to the Institute outstanding, tenure-track UBC faculty members with distinguished research records and commitment to interdisciplinarity. Successful candidates become Faculty Associates of the Institute. With the Early Career Scholars program now well established, the Distinguished Scholars in Residence program has been directed, since summer of 2006, at senior Associate and Full Professors.

Applications for this program are received in mid-May; the invitations are issued in July; and the residency begins January 1. As of 2009, the residency period will change to the period April 1 to March 30. The Senior Selection Committee chooses the Distinguished Scholars in Residence based primarily on the excellence of the candidates' research attainments, current projects, and proposed research and planned events for the year in residence. The committee also takes into account how well the research matches the mandate of the Institute to support work that is both basic and interdisciplinary.

The Distinguished Scholars in Residence selected for calendar year 2008 are William Benjamin (Professor, Music), Margery Fee (Professor, English), and Tony Pitcher (Professor, Fisheries Centre).

A first annual Alumni Dinner for Distinguished Scholars in Residence was well attended on April 4, 2007. It featured an after-dinner talk by John Willinsky on "Open Access, Open Science, and New Intellectual Properties." Dr. Willinsky is the Pacific Press Professor of Literacy and Technology in the Department of Language & Literacy Education and was Distinguished Scholar in Residence at the Institute in 2000.



Karen Bakker Associate Professor, Department of Geography

Dr. Bakker is a scholar committed to understanding environmental policy, the role and significance of water resources in society, and distributive justice. Her primary work is in the field of the political ecology of water, water resources, and resource use in developed and developing countries. Dr. Bakker, a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, completed her doctorate in 1999 and subsequently held a Junior Research Fellowship at Jesus College, Oxford. She came to UBC as an Assistant Professor in 2001 and was a Peter Wall Early Career Scholar in 2002-2003.

Dr. Bakker authored *An Uncooperative Commodity: Privatizing Water in England and Wales* (Oxford University Press, 2004) and edited *Eau Canada: The Future of Canada's Water* (UBC Press, 2006). In addition to producing numerous refereed articles and chapters and a great number of reports, Dr. Bakker contributes to popular debates in the media and elsewhere. At UBC, she is Director of the Water Governance Program.

While at the Institute, Dr. Bakker has organized a launch for her edited collection, *Eau Canada* (see page 20), held a workshop on transboundary water governance, a follow-up to her Peter Wall Exploratory Workshop (see page 31) which was intended as the starting point for an edited book on the topic, and prepared a book-length draft of a major synthesis of the vast strands of empirical research and theoretical advances she has accomplished over the past eight years in developing countries. She will hold an intensive, one-day brainstorming session at the Institute in the spring of 2008 to explore a research focus for a major funding project and published volume.



Dr. Mackworth is widely considered the leading and most distinguished artificial intelligence (AI) researcher in Canada. He has pioneered and made major contributions in the area of constraint satisfaction problems, methods, algorithms, and applications. He has developed an algebraic model of dynamics, Probabilistic Constraint Nets, which has had an impact on developments such as robotic control systems. Dr. Mackworth was the first to propose robot soccer as the benchmark for research on situated robotic agents, a concept that led to the founding of the International RoboCup Federation. He came to UBC as Assistant Professor in 1974.

Dr. Mackworth's leadership in the community through his personal contacts and personality has been as impressive as his research contributions. He is a founding fellow of the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) and recently, its president. He is a senior editor of the international journal *Constraints* and a member of the board of *Artificial Intelligence*. At UBC, Dr. Mackworth served from 1990 to 2006 as Director of the Laboratory for Computational Intelligence, a world-leading group of 15 faculty working in artificial intelligence, robotics, and machine learning. In addition, he took a leading role in developing the undergraduate Cognitive Systems program.

At the Institute this year, Dr. Mackworth is working on a subset of his larger research program on the development of constraint-based approaches to computation and control to further develop the Constraint-Based Agent (CBA) theory. The CBA is a formal and practical design framework for the specification and implementation of intelligent systems that function in active environments.

Alan Mackworth

Professor, Department of Computer Science, and Canada Research Chair in Artificial Intelligence



Judy Segal
Professor, Department of English

Dr. Segal is a rhetorical theorist, someone who studies the history, theory, and means of persuasion in contexts that include politics, the law, commerce, and, increasingly, science. This field is one of the most interdisciplinary, being noted for its ability to bridge the Humanist-Medical-Scientific divide. Her specialty is the rhetoric of health and medicine Her recent contributions to studies of the rhetoric associated with the contemporary biomedicalization of sexuality in Western societies are hailed as pioneering. Dr. Segal came to UBC from the University of Waterloo as Assistant Professor in 1991.

Dr. Segal's recent monograph is *Health and the Rhetoric of Medicine* (Southern Illinois University Press, 2005). She has co-edited a special issue of the journal *Configurations* on the subject "Scientific Ethos: Authorship, Authority and Trust in the Sciences" (2003).

At the Institute this year, Dr. Segal's research involves continued examination of biomedicalization and its impacts on discourse, society, and individuals, focusing on her SSHRC-funded project "Values and Public Persuasion: The Rhetoric of Direct-to-Consumer Advertising of Prescription Pharmaceuticals." She is planning a Peter Wall Institute funded one-day workshop in the spring of 2008 to gather a small number of international scholars and UBC graduate students who are working on topics in the rhetoric of health and medicine but who normally have no sustained opportunity for serious, face-to-face exploration of shared interests.



Dr. Sinclair has conducted research on the Serengeti of Tanzania for more than forty years, asking very ambitious questions: What determines the size of animal populations? What are the structuring processes in ecosystems? How does one conserve and manage those ecosystems? He has also conducted long-term studies in northern Canada. Dr. Sinclair is considered by his peers to be one of the most influential and productive ecologists working in the world today and perhaps the most recognized ecologist in looking at the behaviour of large ecosystems and the nature of population. He came to UBC as Assistant Professor in 1975.

At UBC, Dr. Sinclair was Director of the Centre for Biodiversity Research for six years (1996-2002). He developed a successful, major Canadian Foundation for Innovation grant and raised infrastructure funds for the new research program he calls the Biodiversity Knockout Experiment. He also runs the Species at Risk Centre at UBC as part of the Centre

for Biodiversity Research.

At the Institute, Dr. Sinclair is finalizing the edited collection, *Serengeti III*, and synthesizing ten year's worth of data on the Serengeti. To that end, he has scheduled a major Exploratory Workshop at the Institute for October 19-21, 2007: "Developing Sustainable Human-Natural Systems: The Greater Serengeti Ecosystem as a Case Study." One outcome of this workshop will be the basis of the next edited collection, *Serengeti IV*, on what affects biodiversity, including both natural and human-induced impacts. Details on the Exploratory Workshop will appear in our 2007-2008 Annual Report.

Anthony Sinclair Professor, Department of Zoology

Early Career Scholars

The Early Career Scholars program, active since 2000-2001, brings together outstanding tenure-track faculty from diverse disciplines at the early stages of their careers at UBC. There are two separate cohorts: one for beginning untenured Assistant Professors, the other for recently tenured and promoted Associate Professors. Successful candidates become Faculty Associates of the Institute.

Applications to the program are invited in January, and selections are made in April. The program is for one academic year, September to August. Scholars may receive this award only once.

A first annual Alumni Dinner for Early Career Scholars was held April 17, 2007. The evening featured an after-dinner talk by Stephen Ward on "Journalism Ethics for Global Media." Dr. Ward is Head of the School of Journalism and was an Early Career Scholar in the Senior Cohort in 2000-2001.

The annual year-end "lab crawl" of the current cohorts was quite eye-opening this year.

Senior Cohort

Associate Professors

Catherine Johnson (Earth & Ocean Sciences) — Growing up in northern England, Catherine did her undergraduate studies at Edinburgh University. Following her PhD in 1994 from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics, UC San Diego, she held a post-doc at the Carnegie Institution of Washington. Prior to her UBC appointment in 2005, Catherine was Associate Professor at Scripps, where she helped to develop the Scripps Visualization Center. Her research in Planetary Science is split between studies of terrestrial (rocky) planets and moons in our own solar system and efforts to understand the history of the magnetic field of Earth. Catherine publishes in such prestigious journals as *Science, Physics of the Earth and Planetary Interiors*, and *Icarus*.



Steven Jones (Medical Genetics) — Following degrees from the University of Bristol and Simon Fraser University, Steven completed his PhD in 1999 at the Sanger Centre in Hixton, Cambridge (UK), where he was involved in the *C. elegans* genome project. Selected by the late Michael Smith in 2000 as the first person he was to hire at his new genome science centre, Steven received funding from the Peter Wall Institute for a Major Thematic Grant project, "Pathogenomics: An Innovative Approach to the Study of Infectious Diseases" (1999-2002). He is at present Associate Director and Head of Bioinformatics at Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre at the BC Cancer Agency. Steven has among other things participated in the Mammalian Gene Collection consortium funded by the US National Cancer Institute, developing underlying bioinformatic approaches for the generation of full-length gene sequences.

Shawn Mansfield (Wood Science) — Shawn holds degrees from Mount Allison and Dalhousie universities and a PhD. (1997) from UBC. He joined the Faculty of Forestry as Assistant Professor in 2000 and received a Canada Research Chair in Wood and Fibre Quality in 2002. Shawn's current research, which contains elements of molecular genetics, applied genetics, analytical chemistry, biochemistry, plant anatomy, and physiology, is focused on investigating and elucidating the biosynthetic roles and mechanisms of genes involved in cell wall formation and the growth and development of trees. A prolific researcher and publisher, Shawn recently co-edited *Applications of Enzymes to Lignocellulosics* (Oxford University Press, 2003).

Greg Martin (Mathematics) — A graduate of Stanford University, Greg received his PhD from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in 1997. Before coming to UBC as Assistant Professor in 2001, Greg spent a year as a Member of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton and three years in postdoctoral research at the University of Toronto. Greg's research specialty is one of the two oldest branches of pure mathematics: number theory. Greg engages in interdisciplinary collaboration in the sciences and arts, and in theatre. His research can be found in journals such as *Acta Arithmetica*, *Number Theory*, and *Mathematika*.

Patricia M. Schulte (Zoology) — Patricia grew up in Vancouver and attended UBC as both an undergraduate and a Masters student, before completing her PhD in Biological Sciences at Stanford University. She conducted her research at Stanford's Hopkins Marine Station in Monterey, California. Prior to her return to UBC in 2001 as Assistant Professor, she was



Assistant Professor at the University of Waterloo. Her research interests involve using fish as experimental models to attempt to unravel the often complex relationships between the genotype of an animal and its phenotype. Her current interests include active engagement in biological curriculum reform at UBC and in the testing of alternative pedagogy. She recently co-authored the textbook *Principles of Animal Physiology* (Benjamin Cummins, 2005).

Vesna Sossi (Physics & Astronomy) — Vesna obtained her PhD at UBC in Nuclear Physics in 1991 and then became part of the TRIUMF/UBC Positron Emission Tomography (PET) imaging group, before joining UBC as Assistant Professor in 2001. A nuclear physicist with a specialty in PET imaging, Vesna is a Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Scholar as well as having affiliations with the Brain Research Centre and the departments of Medicine and Medical Biophysics of the BC Cancer Agency. Vesna publishes in physics and IEEE journals, in imaging literature, and in medical journals.

Handel Wright (Educational Studies) — Originally from Sierra Leone, West Africa, Handel's first degree, in English, is from the University of Sierra Leone. He took his graduate studies in Canada at the University of Windsor, Queen's University, and the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, where he obtained the PhD in Curriculum Studies in 1995. Following ten years of teaching at the University of Tennessee, he moved to UBC in 2005 as Canada Research Chair of Comparative Cultural Studies and Director of the Centre for Culture, Identity and Education. He is also David Lam Chair of Multicultural Education for 2006-2009. Handel is co-editor of *International Education*, serves on the editorial board of several journals, and is author of *A Prescience of African Cultural Studies: The Future of Literature Studies in Africa is Not What It Was* (Peter Lang, 2004).

Junior Cohort

Assistant Professors

Natasha Affolder (Law) — Natasha attended the University of Alberta for her BA in History and Economics and LLB, and she holds the BCL and DPhil in Law (2000) from Oxford University, where she was a Rhodes Scholar. She joined the Faculty of Law at UBC in 2004 after working as a research associate at Harvard Business School in the area of large project negotiation and as a lawyer in private practice in Boston, Massachusetts. Her



current research focuses on the intersection of international business law and international environmental and natural resources law. Natasha's work also addresses the domestic relevance of international environmental law, particularly the World Heritage Convention. Her research articles appear in *McGill Law Journal*, *Canadian Journal of Women and the Law*, and *Michigan State Journal of International Law*.

Jon Beasley-Murray (Department of French, Hispanic & Italian Studies) — Jon studied English at King's College, Cambridge and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee before completing his PhD in Comparative Literature at Duke University (2003). He joined UBC in 2004. Jon's research interests are in critical theory and Latin American literature, culture, and politics. He has published on Peru, Argentina, Chile, Central America, and Venezuela, as well as on major critical thinkers. His forthcoming book is entitled *Posthegemony: Cultural Theory and Latin America* (University of Minnesota Press). Other current research projects include "The Latin American Multitude," "Latin America on Screen," and "American Ruins." (See page 33 for details of Dr. Beasley-Murray's Exploratory Workshop with Maxwell Cameron: "Left Turns? Progressive Parties, Insurgent Movements, and Policy Alternatives in Contemporary Latin America.")

Kai Ming Chan (Institute for Resources, Environment & Sustainability) — After receiving an Honours BSc in Ecology from Toronto and MA and PhD in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology from Princeton (2003) and a Certificate in Public Policy in a joint program of the Princeton Environmental Institute and the Woodrow Wilson School, Kai completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Stanford University's Center for Conservation Biology. He came to UBC in 2005, where he coordinates a transdisciplinary conservation discussion group. Kai attempts to incorporate ecosystem services into the strategic planning of major conservation organizations such as the Nature Conservancy and the World Wildlife Fund, and he has been developing both the ethical and scientific aspects of his work in parallel, including publishing in the popular media and research journals such as *Science*, *Nature*, *Evolution*, *Bioinformatics*, and *Journal of Applied Philosophy*.

Antje Ellermann (Political Science) — Antje received her BSc (Honours) in Sociology and a Diploma in Social Work at the University of Bath and PhD in Political Science and Social Policy from Brandeis University in 2005, the year she joined UBC. Antje is a migration scholar who specializes in comparative politics with a regional focus on Europe and North America. Her dissertation research, which was funded by a US Social Science



Research Council International Migration Fellowship, examined the comparative politics of deportation. At UBC she is active in the Inter-Faculty Initiative in Migration Studies and is a Faculty Associate of the Institute for European Studies, the Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions, and the Centre for International Relations. Antje publishes in such journals as *West European Politics* and *Comparative Political Studies* and has a book manuscript under review.

Darren Irwin (Zoology) — Darren's lifelong interest in the natural world blossomed while he was a science undergraduate at Stanford University. He received his PhD in Biological Sciences from the University of California, San Diego (2000), where he studied evolution and ecology. Darren held a two-year US National Science Foundation International Research Fellowship at Lund University in Sweden, followed by an 18-month postdoctoral fellowship at UCLA, prior to his UBC appointment in 2004. Darren also directs the Cowan Vertebrate Museum at UBC. His research addresses the fundamental question: How do new species of organisms arise? Through a wide range of approaches borrowed from the fields of geography, genetics, molecular biology, behavioural biology, and computer modeling, his studies of speciation in Asian warblers have provided an unusually clear illustration of how, over time, a single species evolves into two. This discovery has led to publications in leading scientific journals such as *Nature* and *Science* and attracted the interest of the popular media, such as CBC Radio's "Quirks and Quarks."

Christina Laffin (Asian Studies) — Christina was born on Hornby Island, BC and completed her BA in Japanese Language at UBC and PhD in Japanese Literature at the University of Tokyo and Columbia University (2005). She came to UBC in 2005 as a specialist in medieval Japanese literature. Christina's present research focuses on travel records produced by court women of the 10th to 15th centuries and considers how socioeconomic status affected physical mobility. As an MA student, Christina served as managing editor and was one of the major translators for the English edition of the ambitious, monumental volumes of *Gender and Japanese History* (ed. Wakia Haruko, Osaka University Press, 1999). Then as a doctoral student, she co-edited with a scholar of classical Greek theatre a bilingual collection of essays on Japanese Noh theatre, *Ominameshi* (Cornell University Press, 2003). Christina has also contributed chapters in numerous book collections.

Anand Pandian (Anthropology and the Institute of Asian Research) — Anand came to UBC in 2005 as the Johal Chair in Indian Studies (IAR) and Assistant Professor of Anthropology.



Anand completed his undergraduate studies in Political Ecology at Amherst College and his PhD in Sociocultural Anthropology as a Fellow of the interdisciplinary Townsend Center for the Humanities at the University of California, Berkeley in 2004. His research concerns the cultural politics of development, nature, and identity in South Asia, with a book nearing completion regarding the moral reform of a caste of putative thieves in the Madurai countryside. A new project involves representations of rural life and landscape in Tamil cinema. Anand is co-author of *Economic Approaches for a Green India* (Allied Press, 1999) and co-editor of *Race, Nature, and the Politics of Difference* (Duke University Press, 2003).

Danielle van Jaarsveld (Organizational Behaviour/Human Resources, Sauder School of Business) — Danielle received her undergraduate degree in History from Princeton University and both her MA and PhD (2005) degrees in Industrial Relations and Labor Relations from Cornell University. She was co-winner with Daniyal Zuberi of the 2005 annual best thesis prize of the Labor and Employment Relations Association. She joined UBC in 2004. Her current research is an international study of the implications of globalization on job quality in the service sector and involves researchers from 20 countries and many disciplines. Her research includes both high-tech workplaces in the information technology and software development industry and low-tech service work in the call centre industry. Danielle has published in *New York Law School Law Review*, *International Journal of Cultural Policy*, and *Industrial Relations*.

Mark Vellend (Botany and Zoology) — Mark holds a degree in Biology from McGill University and a PhD in Ecology and Evolution (2004) from Cornell University. Following a one-year postdoctoral fellowship at the US National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis, he took up his joint appointment at UBC in 2005, where he holds the Canada Research Chair in Conservation Biology. Mark's research brings together parallel and fundamental questions in ecology and evolutionary biology and focuses specifically on the ecological and evolutionary dimensions of biodiversity — the numbers and relative abundances of biological variants found in nature. His work was acknowledged when he was awarded the American Naturalists' Young Investigator Prize (2005). He publishes in top-tier journals, such as *American Journal of Botany* and *Ecology*.

Daniyal Zuberi (Sociology) — Daniyal received his PhD in Sociology and Social Policy from Harvard University in 2004; he also holds degrees from Oxford and Johns Hopkins. He came to UBC in 2004 on a Canadian Institute for Advanced Research Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) and then took up his present faculty appointment in 2005. Daniyal's current projects build on his doctoral dissertation, for which he was co-winner with Daniele van Jaarsveld of the 2005 annual best thesis prize of the Labor and Employment Relations Association, and which he recently published as a book, *Differences That Matter: Social Policy and the Working Poor in the United States and Canada* (Cornell University Press, 2006). Current funded projects include a study on the effects of outsourcing on hospital support staff in Vancouver and a four-city study of urban poverty in the Pacific Northwest region.

Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor

In the Distinguished Visiting Professor program, from time to time a distinguished senior scholar with a reputation for interdisciplinary engagement spends time in residence at the Institute. It is expected that the Visiting Professor will pursue a specific scholarly agenda, participate in Institute programs and events, and organize a specific activity or activities, such as a workshop, public talk, or speakers' series, intended to contribute to the intellectual life of the Institute and its affiliated scholars. This pilot program evolved from the former Catalytic Visit program (1998-2000).

Roald Hoffman, who won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1981 and is also a poet and playwright, has accepted the invitation to be Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor in 2008.

Arif Dirlik, 2005 Distinguished Visiting Professor continues to contribute to the work of the Institute. For a description of a theme development workshop and a book launch, see pages 36 and 44. He will also be co-directing the 2008 Wall Summer Institute for Research "The End of the Peasant? Global Capitalism and the Future of Agrarian Society" (see page 22 for details).



Residential Scholars' Research Events

The Distinguished Scholars in Residence and Early Career Scholars organized eight events.

Minerva's Moment: Japan, Canada, and the EU in Global Institution-Building

Workshop organized by Julian Dierkes, Institute of Asian Research and Early Career Scholar 2003-2004, and Yves Tiberghien, Political Science and Early Career Scholar 2003-2004

August 21-22, 2006

Discussed at this two-day workshop was the role of ambitious middle powers in the generation of international norms and international institutions. Robert Kagan put forth a stark dichotomy between the United States and Europe, characterizing U.S. policies as being based in strength and willingness to consider military options, and European preferences as leaning toward "soft" solutions. Participants considered a project focusing on a third way between Mars and Venus: Minerva, namely "the wise use of force," or the construction of meaningful positive institutions as alternatives to the use of force. The project would bring together scholars from several disciplines with many areas of expertise to explain the growing commitment to global institution-building of middle powers like Japan, Canada, and the European Union across four issue areas that have seen some recent attempts at international institution-building: the environment, human security, human rights and culture, and financial and trade regulation.

Computational Approaches to Understanding and Predicting the Structure of RNA Molecules and Their Roles in Living Cells Series

Lecture series organized by Anne Condon, 2006 Distinguished Scholar in Residence

This lecture series began with David Mathews' talk, "Dual Scale Modeling of RNA," in the spring of 2006. That talk is described in our 2005-2006 Annual Report. The following three talks featured in this reporting period:

Niles A. Pierce: Analysis and Design of Nucleic Acid Devices September 11, 2006

DNA and RNA are versatile construction materials. By appropriately designing the sequence of bases in each strand, synthetic nucleic acid systems can be programmed to self-assemble into complex structures that implement dynamic mechanical tasks. Motivated by the challenge of encoding arbitrary mechanical functions into nucleic acid sequences, Professor Pierce, Associate Professor of Applied & Computational Mathematics and Bioengineering at the California Institute of Technology, is involved in developing a suite of computational algorithms for analyzing the underlying free energy landscapes that control the behaviour of a system. Dr. Pierce's talk focused on new algorithms for predicting the equilibrium properties of an entire test tube of interacting nucleic acid strands.

Jack Snoeyink: Evaluating Multi-Body Potentials in Protein Design October 23, 2006

The relationship from protein sequence to structure to function has opened the way to designing proteins with new function by modifying the sequence of amino acids. Several successful protein designs have created proteins with novel, designed folding, binding, or even catalytic behaviour. Most of these designs use the backbone of a native protein as a fixed scaffold structure, but allow some residues to choose new amino acids and a superset to repack their sidechains to minimize an energy function, to find a stable structure in which the designed region has a desired geometry and chemistry. Dr. Snoeyink, Professor of Computer Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, presented his ongoing work with others on incorporating solvent accessible surface area (SASA) and SASA-based packing scores and hydrogen bond satisfaction into the Rosetta software suite for protein design.

Paul Higgs: Evolution of the Genetic Code before and after the LUCA April 16, 2007

Dr. Higgs, who holds a Canada Research Chair in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at McMaster University, explained that the genetic code is the set of assignments between the 64 possible codons in DNA and the 20 possible amino acids in proteins. The code controls the process of translation. Most organisms use the canonical genetic code, which evolved prior to the Last Universal Common Ancestor (LUCA) of all current life. Many modified genetic codes, however, are found in specific genomes in which one or more codons have been reassigned to a different amino acid. Dr. Higgs discussed a new theory for codon reassignment that incorporates four possible mechanisms of codon reassignment and reviewed the data from mitochondrial genome sequences that can be used to find the phylogenetic locations of reassignments and to determine which of the mechanisms has occurred in real cases.

Music and Mind: Cognition, Composition, and Performance

Workshop organized by Mira Sundara Rajan, Law and Early Career Scholar 2005-2006, and Todd Handy, Psychology, 2001 Visiting Junior Scholar and Early Career Scholar 2005-2006

September 22, 2006

This workshop included three public sessions consisting of talks and musical performances. The experience allowed the opportunity to explore music from two distinct perspectives: the cognitive neuroscience of the musical experience, and the artistic processes manifest in the composition and performance of music itself. The first public session featured one-hour talks by Dr. Petr Janata of University of California, Davis and Dr. Bradley Vines of Harvard University that addressed recent scientific advances in understanding the neural basis of music perception. There followed a 90-minute piano recital and discussion by Mira Sundara Rajan. The event ended with an informal live solo acoustic performance by Singer/Songwriter Katie Henry.

Barbara Becker-Cantarino: "Passion is the Key to the World": The Discourse of Sexuality in Germany around 1800

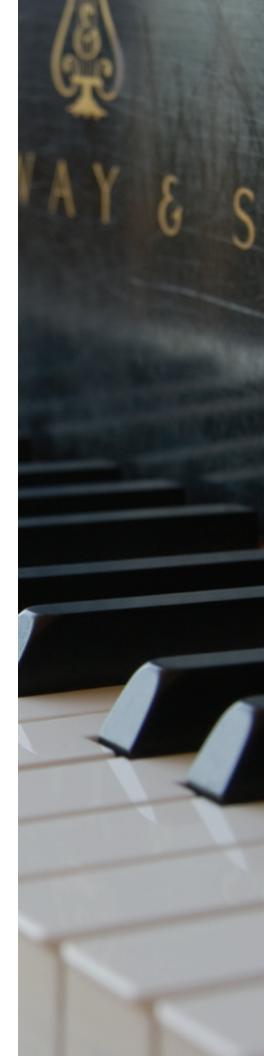
Colloquium organized by Gaby Pailer, Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies and Early Career Scholar 2005-2006 January 17, 2007

Professor Becker-Cantarino, Research Professor of Germanic Languages & Literatures at The Ohio State University, is a distinguished scholar in the fields of Germanic studies and cultural and gender studies. For more than two decades she has provided groundbreaking research on the literary and cultural history of German-speaking Europe from the Renaissance to the present.

Book Launch for Karen Bakker, editor: *Eau Canada: The Future of Canada's Water* February 8, 2007

Book launch for *Eau Canada* (UBC Press, 2006) organized by Karen Bakker, Early Career Scholar, 2002-2003, and 2007 Distinguished Scholar in Residence.

The event was co-sponsored with UBC Press and the Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation.



Elizabeth Robinson: Knowing about Knowledge: Children's Evaluations of the Reliability of Direct and Indirect Experience

Colloquium organized by Susan Birch, Psychology and Early Career Scholar, 2005-2006 May 17, 2007

From their very earliest days, children gain knowledge from their direct experiences of the world such as by seeing and feeling. As they master language, they also gain knowledge indirectly from what other people tell them. Yet it is not until several years later that children can reflect and comment explicitly on how their knowledge was gained, or predict how best to fill a particular gap in their knowledge. In general, children seem be quite efficient in their knowledge-gaining despite lacking reflective understanding of the knowing process. The talk stimulated discussion with members of the audience from different disciplines about the various ways in which we can know about knowledge. Dr. Robinson is Professor of Psychology at the University of Warwick.

Wall Summer Institute for Research

The Wall Summer Institute for Research (WSIR) is an intensive five-day workshop involving up to 15 outstanding interdisciplinary fellows in residence, invited from around the world to debate, discuss, and push forward thinking on a cutting-edge research question with select scholars from the University of British Columbia. Several months later, we invite the participants to attend a follow-up weekend research retreat in another part of the world. This program evolved from the former, month-long Visiting Junior Scholars summer program that ended in 2004.

Part of each Summer Institute is open to the public, allowing for wide dissemination of the ideas and arguments of the main participants, but much of it is restricted to the invited speakers and local participants, enabling intense and focused intellectual work on the problem. Selected graduate students and postdoctoral fellows are also invited to attend. It is expected that a high-profile expert on the topic will present a public address.

WSIR 2008

"The End of the Peasant? Global Capitalism and the Future of Agrarian Society" is in the advanced planning stage. **Arif Dirlik**, Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor 2005 and currently Visiting Professor, Chinese University of Hong Kong, and **Alex Woodside**, Professor Emeritus, History, UBC, will co-direct this Summer Institute, June 23-28, 2008. This small, intensive meeting will involve experts from China, South Asia, Southeast Asia, Africa, and Latin America. In addition, a one-day graduate student workshop will be held June 28 to explore the implications of global capitalism for the future of agrarian society. A description of WSIR 2008 will appear in next year's annual report. A Follow-up Research Retreat in China is planned for the summer of 2009.

WSIR 2005 Second Follow-Up

Synchronous Rhythms in the Brain
Organizers: Rachel Kuske, Applied Mathematics, Yue Xian Li, Mathematics and Biology, and Lawrence Ward, Psychology

June 25-28, 2007

The brain is the main source of biological rhythms. These rhythms range from sleep-wake cycles and the life-supporting respiration rhythm to hormonal rhythms that control reproduction; from gaits in animal locomotion to the highly sophisticated rhythms displayed in piano playing and belly dancing. Synchronization plays a key role in the networks of neurons that generate these rhythms. This mini-symposium at the Institute aimed to bring the leading experts in a variety of research fields related to synchronization together to exchange ideas on synchronization from a wide range of viewpoints. These included experimentalists, mathematicians, and theoreticians.

Whereas the original WSIR 2005 and follow-up weekend research retreat in Paris directed by Lawrence Ward had focused on synchrony in mind, brain, and consciousness, presentations at this third meeting focused on the brain, with presentations by researchers from the areas of hormonal rhythms generated by synchronized endocrine neurons; the origin of respiratory rhythms; synchrony and epileptic seizure-like activities; general theory of synchrony in neural networks and dynamical systems; mathematics and simulation of physiologically realistic neural networks; measurement and interpretation of neural synchronization in non-human animals; and measurement and interpretation of neural synchrony in humans. An achievement of this meeting was that virtually all leading experts working in the area of synchronous rhythms have now participated in one or more of these three meetings.

Co-sponsoring this meeting with the Institute was the Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS). See the 2005-2006 annual report for details on WSIR 2005 and the first Follow-Up Retreat.

WSIR 2007

What Difference Does the Advent of Civil Society Mean to Global Health Governance?

Co-Directors: Janice Stein, Director of the Munk Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto and Mark Zacher, Political Science, UBC Convenor: Dianne Newell, Director, Peter Wall Institute June 25-29, 2007

Over four days, 18 invited local and international, junior and senior, academics and global health professionals met at the Institute to deliberate the impact that civil society organizations have had on global health governance. Civil society refers to the arena of uncoerced collective action around shared interests, purposes, and values. In theory, civil society organizations are distinct from those of the state, civil society, family, and market, though in practice the boundaries between these institutions are often complex, blurred, and negotiated. The objective was to bring together a diverse group of individuals working and researching different aspects of global public health to explore critical and controversial phenomena that have yet to be analyzed and to advance thinking and dialogue in this area in order to improve global health outcomes.

The event took the form of a running discussion seminar, with each day divided into a morning session, open to members of the academic community, in which specific papers were critiqued, and intensive, closed afternoon sessions. The big questions on the agenda





James Orbinki and Brett Finlay

Gala Event

In keeping with the goal of the Institute to share expertise and research agendas of WSIR with the general public, a lively, well-publicized open lecture at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts was given on the second evening. An audience of 400 was welcomed by the Institute Director, Dianne Newell. Janice Stein, Director of the Munk Centre for International Studies at the University of Toronto, moderated the evening and introduced the keynote speaker, James Orbinski, who spoke on "Why Civil Society Matters to Global Health." Brett Finlay, Institute Distinguished Professor, followed with a short commentary, and then Drs. Orbinski and Finlay answered questions from the audience. Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) volunteers on site were besieged with inquiries from the audience after the talk.

James Orbinski is Associate Professor of Medicine and Political Science, and a research scientist and clinician at St. Michael's Hospital, University of Toronto. He served as the international president of Médecins Sans Frontières (1998-2001) and has been engaged in human emergencies and critical humanitarian issues in Zaire, Rwanda, Afghanistan, and Somalia. He has been instrumental in establishing a number of not-for-profit research and development initiatives; he was awarded the Governor General's Meritorious Service Cross in 1997 and accepted the Nobel Peace Prize for 1999 on behalf of MSF. The talk focused on the importance of health as a public good.

Certain key questions and ideas provoked by the Vancouver WSIR were developed for the Follow-up Weekend Research Retreat to be held in London, hosted by the Peter Wall Institute, co-sponsored by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and co-directed by Kelley Lee and Mark Zacher, October 6-7, 2007. The event will be described in next year's annual report.



Invited to WSIR 2007

Kenneth W. Abbott, Law and School of Global Studies, Arizona State University Sonja Bartsch, German Institute of Global and Area Studies - Jillian Clare Cohen-Kohler, Director, Comparative Program on Health and Society, Munk Centre and Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto **Ronald J. Deibert**, Political Science and Citizen Lab, University of Toronto Nick Drager, Department of Ethics, Trade, Human Rights and Health Law, World Health Organization

Brett Finlay, Michael Smith Laboratories, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, and Microbiology & Immunology, University of British Columbia **Margaret Hilson**, Global Health Advisor, Faculty of Health Sciences, Simon Fraser University **Exercise** Kelley Lee, WHO Collaborating Centre on Global Change and Health, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, University of London **David** McCoy, Managing Editor, Global Health Watch, and Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University College London **Thelma Narayan**, Epidemiologist, Public Health Policy professional, and Joint Convenor of the Peoples Health Movement in India James Orbinski, Research Scientist and Clinician, St. Michael's Hospital, Medicine and Political Science, Senior Fellow, Centre for International Health, and Munk Centre, University of Toronto - Richard Price, Political Science, University of British Columbia Daniel Sahleyesus, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Centre for International Health and Research Associate, Comparative Program on Health and Society, Munk Centre, University of Toronto Paul Shaw, Program Advisor, Human Development Group, World Bank Institute **Devi Sridhar**, Postdoctoral Researcher, Global Economic Governance Programme, Department of Politics and International Relations and Postdoctoral Associate, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Oxford - Janice Stein, Belzberg Professor of Conflict Management, Department of Political Science and Director, Munk Centre, University of Toronto - Y. Andrea Wang, Doctoral Candidate, International Relations, University of Oxford - Mark Zacher, Political Science and Liu Institute, University of British Columbia



Thematic Programs

Thematic Programs establish an overall research theme in which scholars with related expertise are gathered together.

Major Thematic Grant

The Major Thematic Grant program was introduced in 1994 and the application process revised in 2005. There have been five awards to date.

The Major Thematic Grant has in past years provided funding of up to \$500,000 over a three-year period to interdisciplinary teams of UBC and external scholars to research a new area. To accommodate the greatly altered Canadian funding environment for large, collaborative research projects that has evolved since 1994, and to encourage truly interdisciplinary projects, the application process now begins with the submission of a **Letter of Intent** that, if successful, would lead to an invitation to submit a full proposal and for the Principal Investigator to meet with the Adjudication Committee. **Full applications** are due within six months of being invited. In addition to a flexible total award amount of \$300,000 to \$500,000, there is also a flexible grant duration of a minimum of three and a maximum of five years.

Applications are encouraged from interdisciplinary, collaborative teams formed specifically for the competition as well as from existing research units. The projects are broadly based, though there is no expectation concerning the number of disciplines or faculties to be represented. Projects should have an overall coherence and should offer more than a straightforward extension of existing work or an umbrella for separate projects. It is expected that UBC will become a centre for research on the topic. Applicants for a Major Thematic Grant must first hold an **Exploratory Workshop** or equivalent research event.

Major Thematic Grant Project Update

See page 45 for the book launch of *Unfitting Stories: Narrative Approaches to Disease, Disability, and Trauma*, resulting from the Major Thematic Grant "Narratives of Disease, Disability, and Trauma" (1999-2003).

\$314,000

Spent on **Residential Programs**

Spent on Thematic Programs \$129,000

Spent on **Trustees' Initiatives**

Faculty Associates

Distinguished Professor

Distinguished Scholars in Residence

Early Career Scholars

Seventeen

Summer Institute

Residential Scholar's Research Events



Exploratory

Theme Development Workshops and Colloquia

Associate Forums and Special Events

Special Events

Exploratory Workshop Grant

Through Exploratory Workshops the Institute brings together researchers from a wide range of disciplines at UBC and invites them, along with distinguished experts from outside the University, to jointly assess research possibilities and develop a research agenda in a new area. A goal of each workshop is to further develop that agenda into the basis of an application for major research funding, such as the Institute's Major Thematic Grant program.

Typically, the workshop entails a meeting of 30 to 70 scholars over the course of several days at the Peter Wall Institute, with guests staying at the Institute's residence rooms. Advance planning ensures that a core group of UBC researchers will actively participate along with invited external scholars. Some aspect of the workshop, such as a keynote address or distinguished panel, should be open to the public.

A theme-based website provides an important and continuing medium for the workshop participants. The website, created and hosted by the Institute, becomes a focal point for UBC and external participants, as well as communicating information about the project to a broader audience.

Applications for this program are received March 1 and October 1, and the results are announced in April and November, respectively. Awardees are expected to conduct the workshop within 12 months of the announcement. The Institute provides up to \$15,000 for an Exploratory Workshop without requiring matching funds. Furthermore, it will match additional funds for that specific workshop from other sources up to \$10,000 if certain conditions are met.

Bridging the Gap between Biological and Social Approaches to Understanding the Origins of Violent Behaviour

Principal Investigators: Patricia Janssen, Health Care & Epidemiology and Elizabeth M. Simpson, Medical Genetics and Early Career Scholar, 2000-2001 November 17-19, 2006

This lively three-day workshop brought scientists from the social and health sciences together with researchers from the basic sciences to explore new ways of understanding root causes of violence. Two public sessions were held with presentations by speakers from across the clinical disciplines of psychology, psychiatry, and nursing; basic sciences, including medical genetics and molecular biology; and ethics. In the two closed sessions, workshop participants planned for collaboration in ongoing research activities. Registration for this workshop was open to select individuals and capped at 70. Attendees included graduate students and clinicians working in relevant fields in the provincial health authorities and criminal justice system. International invitees included Drs Douglas Blackwood of the School of Molecular and Clinical Medicine, Department of Psychiatry, University of Edinburgh; Emil Coccaro, Director of the Clinical Neuroscience & Psychopharmacology Unit, Department of Psychiatry, University of Chicago; Judith McFarlane of the College of Nursing, Texas Women's University; Eric Parens, Senior Research Scholar, Hastings Center, New York; and Julia Kim-Cohen of the Department of Psychology, Yale University.

Dr. Kennedy's's participation was funded by the co-sponsorship of the Child and Family Research Institute, Vancouver.

Watersheds and Source Protection: Governance, Science, and Health

Principal Investigator: Karen Bakker, Geography and Early Career Scholar, 2002-2003 November 24-26, 2006

Increasing awareness of risks to water quality and quantity is driving the application of integrated watershed management approaches in many jurisdictions. Innovative approaches include source protection, the "multi-barrier" approach, and risk assessment. Yet many unanswered questions remain, which participants at the workshop sought to answer. Twenty-six invited participants from many units at UBC and institutes across Canada and abroad debated questions on specific topics: risk, water quality and public health; water security; integrating land use, groundwater, and surface water; governance; values, behaviours, and ethics in watershed governance; and translating science into policy. Dr. David Shindler of the University of Alberta gave a public lecture on "Water in the West" that was co-hosted by UBC's Institute for Resources, Environment & Sustainability and the Department of Geography and attended by more than 200 individuals. The workshop concluded with the formation of working groups that developed proposals for interdisciplinary research agendas on watersheds and source protection.

Sensorimotor Computation: Bits, Bodies, and Brains

Principal Investigator: Dinesh K. Pai, Computer Science February 9-11, 2007

Sensorimotor computation is a highly interdisciplinary topic that seeks to develop a deep understanding of how the human brain and spinal cord interact with the real world through the senses and muscles, using techniques from many fields ranging from neurobiology to computer science. It provides a unique window into the workings of the human brain because it connects empirical observations of biological systems — from psychophysical studies to single neuron electrophysiology — to the functional constraints on any system that successfully interacts with the physical world. This connection to insights from robotics, computer science, and engineering could lead to a deeper understanding of biological systems. The workshop examined three specific sensorimotor subsystems: eye movements, hand dexterity, and balance. Leading off this highly successful workshop was a large public session held at the Fredric Wood Theatre on the opening day. It featured Dinesh Pi's introductory tutorial on the topic and keynote talks by Dr. Roland Johansson of Umeå University, Sweden and Dr. Joseph Demer, University of California, Los Angeles. Other distinguished researchers from Italy, UK, USA, and Canada participated alongside UBC researchers.

Additional funding came from the Sensorimotor Systems Laboratory, UBC Department of Computer Science, and ICORD (International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries). An outcome of the workshop was the decision to apply for a three-year grant on sensorimotor computation from the Institute's Major Thematic Grant program. In addition, the co-investigators will offer a three-credit graduate topics course in 2008, entitled "Sensorimotor Reading and Thinking."

Theory and Practice in Eighteenth-Century Philosophy

Principal Investigators: Alexander Dick, English and Christina Lupton, English May 18-20, 2007

It is customary to think of the British empiricists John Locke, David Hume, and Thomas Reid as pioneers of the philosophy of mind. But what do the material contexts for the philosophy of mind — its rhetoric, scholarly networks, and methods of dissemination — tell us about its goals and purposes? The workshop brought together literary critics skilled in rhetorical and cultural analysis, philosophers knowledgeable in analyzing empirical and common sense philosophy as structures of thought, sociologists who are expert in assessing the dynamics of intellectual and academic institutions, and historians versed in the intellectual legacy of Enlightenment philosophy. Participants debated how the philosophy of mind changes in accordance with discoveries about its material origins and what kinds of methodologies are available or necessary to account for that change. The workshop provided a significant forum for considering not only the intellectual heritage of the West, but also for examining the continuing relevance of the humanities to the university and beyond. Dr. Clifford Siskin

of the Department of English, New York University, gave the opening keynote address, "Mediated Enlightenment," at a well-attended public session. Professors Dick and Lupton will edit a collection of essays on the topic with Pickering and Chatto Press.

The UBC Department of English and the Faculty of Arts provided additional funding.

Left Turns? Progressive Parties, Insurgent Movements, and Policy Alternatives in Contemporary Latin America

Principal Investigators: Jon Beasley-Murray, French, Hispanic, & Italian Studies and Maxwell Cameron, Political Science
May 25-27, 2007

"Left Turns?" brought together scholars and researchers from throughout the Americas and Europe with local scholars from a dozen different departments at UBC and Simon Fraser University to analyze the recent turn to the Left in Latin America. Many graduate and undergraduate students attended all or part of the workshop. Papers were circulated in advance, allowing ample time for discussion and debate. Plans for both publication of the selected papers in a special issue of the North American Congress on Latin America (NACLA) and in an edited collection, as well as other follow-up activities, are already well advanced. The public session, held in SFU's downtown Vancouver campus, provoked lively discussion, demonstrating community interest in the topic. In this regard, the workshop furthered a partnership between Latin Americanists at UBC and SFU and provided the basis for further collaboration in the form of major research grant proposals.

Co-sponsoring the workshop were the Latin American Studies Program at SFU and the UBC Department of Political Science and Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions.

The Art Song Anima: Ambiguities, Authenticities, Auguries
Principal Investigator: Rena Sharon, Music

June 20-23, 2007

Song, the joining of oral language with the language of pitched frequencies, is a fundamental mode of human expressivity and experimental archive. Its ubiquity suggests a primeval universal instinct with an enigmatic purposefulness. The familiarity of song as part of the social fabric is so natural as to appear unremarkable, and its diminutive structure can suggest insubstantiality. But song is also a container for information about human communication, cognition, and neuroscience. This ambitious three-day workshop was a scholarly companion to the Vancouver International Song Institute (VISI), which was co-hosted by the UBC School of Music and the National Association of Teachers of Singing. World-renowned scholars and performers taught at VISI in an interdisciplinary course of study, and a concurrent performance festival offered 20 recitals on campus and

Thematic Programs

diverse opportunities to interface with the Wall Institute's "Art Song" workshop. At the workshop, scholars both debated a range of research questions and performed. The art-based material was cutting-edge, as were the interconnections of speech and song, and the potential of science-based research. Professor Ellen Dissanayake of VISI and the School of Music, University of Washington, made the public presentation at the UBC School of Music: "Homo Aestheticus; Where Song Begins."

Co-sponsoring the workshop were the UBC School of Music and the VISI.



Theme Development Workshops

Theme Development Workshops enable researchers from a variety of disciplines at UBC to get together informally at the Institute for part of a day or longer to share ideas on researching a particular theme. These workshops are typically closed meetings that often serve as a first step to preparing an Exploratory Workshop or Major Thematic Grant application. Applications to this program can be made at any time.

Social Determinants of Health

Workshop organized by Clyde Hertzman, Health Care & Epidemiology and Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP), and Darrin Lehman, Psychology September 12, 2006

An informal network of UBC researchers from various fields, including sociology, anthropology, pediatrics, applied ethics, business, and economics discussed possibilities for developing a formal interdisciplinary research group to better understand the social determinants of health, an area in which Clyde Hertzman and colleagues have produced outstanding, pioneering work.

Regime Change and Cultural Dynamics: New Perspectives on Ethnic Chinese in Southeast Asia and North America

Workshop organized by Abidin Kusno, Institute of Asian Research March 3, 2007

A group of Southeast Asian, European, and North American scholars working on the topic of Chinese migration met for one day after attending the March 1-2, 2007 conference at the Institute of Asian Research on "Public Eyes/Private Lenses: Visualizing the Chinese in Indonesia and North America." Their objective was to identify and explore research themes of mutual interest as a basis for research cooperation between UBC and institutions in Japan, Indonesia, and India. One specific outcome was the preparation of a SSHRC International Opportunity Fund application to involve UBC researchers in a documentation project on the Chinese in Indonesia and North America.

War and Theory

Workshop organized by Arif Dirlik, 2005 Distinguished Visiting Professor June 1-3, 2007

The third annual meeting of the Pacific Seminar was held in part at the Institute and co-hosted with the Asian Research at UBC and the University of California, Los Angeles. Dedicated to fostering critical and interdisciplinary perspectives on Asia and the Pacific, the seminar provides graduate students on the West Coast working in these areas with a forum in which to present their research and explore questions of social and political concern with supporting faculty. This year's seminar explored the complicated impact that the contemporary state of war is having on Asia and the Pacific. Keynote addresses were given by PWIAS Faculty Associates Derek Gregory of the Department of Geography, "In Our Sights: Late Modern War and the Politics of Witnessing," and Sneja Gnew of Women's Studies and English, "Who Counts as European? From Orientalism to Occidentalism."



Colloquia

These public talks are usually held during the lunch hour in the Institute's conference rooms. The Institute provides short-term accommodation for a distinguished visiting speaker whose topic will be of interest to the UBC colleagues in a range of disciplines, a pre-talk luncheon for a small group of invited guests, and a meeting room and publicity for the public talk. Faculties, departments, and other academic units may apply to hold a colloquium at any time.

Jane Schaller, MD, Visiting Professor of Pediatrics at UBC, Consultant, Centre for International Child Health, BC Children's Hospital and Executive Director, International Pediatric Association gave an evening talk entitled "Global Child Health: Why It Matters and Why We Should Care" on December 6, 2006. Olav Slaymaker coordinated the talk, which discussed child survival and child health as urgent and neglected issues in today's world.

Lawrence Rosen, William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Anthropology at Princeton University and Adjunct Professor of Law at Columbia University, gave a talk entitled "Protecting the Prophet: The Danish Cartoon Controversy, Blasphemy, and the Meaning of Martyrdom," on February 2, 2007. Professor Rosen is interested in relationships between cultural concepts and their implementation in social and legal relationships. His visit was arranged jointly by the Institute and the Law and Society Program, UBC.



Lawrence Rosen

Associates Forums

This program of monthly lunches and dinners that feature talks by Institute Faculty Associates provides a regular opportunity for Associates and guests to exchange ideas and knowledge across UBC and to get to know other researchers at different stages of their careers. These forums also give Exploratory Workshop Principal Investigators a place to report on research accomplishments. All Associates are invited to attend.

September 13, 2006 **Kalina Christoff**, Psychology and 2005-2006 Early Career Scholar

A Report on Exploratory Workshop "Executive and Prefrontal Functions of the Brain: Exploring Supervision and Volition in the Brain" (See the 2005-2006 Annual Report for workshop details.)

September 27, 2006 **Lawrence Ward**, Psychology and 2005 Distinguished Scholar in Residence "Is That All There Is? How the Brain Creates Perception, Emotion, and Thought"

The goal of cognitive neuroscience is to describe and understand how the brain implements perception and cognition. Affective neuroscience strives to describe the brain mechanisms of emotion. Social neuroscience is interested in understanding how the brain mediates social interaction. All these fields are making great progress in identifying where in the brain specific cognitive, affective, or social functions are implemented as well as some progress in understanding how this is done. Dr. Ward discussed the question of whether the workings of the brain/body alone are sufficient to explain human behaviour and experience. Is that all there is? Or is something else required, something beyond the "physical"?

October 11, 2006

Andrew Macnab, Pediatrics and 2006 Distinguished Scholar in Residence "Aid for Africa: The 'Ilkeliani' of UBC"

Aid projects intended to benefit the developing world often fail because of the challenges and pitfalls involved. In the summer of 2006, at the request of African communities, key elements of two successful BC child health initiatives were "transplanted" into Kenya and Uganda by UBC-led teams. In the context of these two projects, Dr. Macnab addressed some of the pros and cons of university-driven aid for developing countries and described how universities set out to achieve success.

October 18, 2006

Derek Gregory, Geography

"Vanishing Points: Law, Violence, and Spaces of Exception in the 'War on Terror'"

Dr. Gregory's talk focused on the "war on terror" and, in particular, on the imprisonment and interrogation practices in the emerging global war prison. By exploring connections between strategic geographical sites like Bagram, Guantánamo Bay, Abu Ghraib, and the CIA's secret prisons, Dr. Gregory showed how these sites are produced through constantly shifting folds between law and violence that depend on a particular (and contradictory) series of geographies.

November 8, 2006 **Becki Ross**, Sociology

"The Evacuation of 'Hookers' on Davie Street, 1975-1985: A Cautionary Tale"

Long reputed to be the "prostitution capital of Canada," Vancouver has been at the centre of legal and moral debate, policing, media analysis, and political wrangling for more than a century. Dr. Ross explored the decade from the mid-1970s, when prostitutes were forced out of the city's relatively safe hotels and nightclubs onto more dangerous streets, to the mid-1980s, leading up to Vancouver's hosting of Expo 86. Dr. Ross pointed to the dense constellation of social, economic, legal, and ideological forces that culminated in the unprecedented injunction against West End sex workers issued by the BC Supreme Court in July 1984. The injunction and the abolitionist forces that propelled it continue to haunt perceptions of the sex industry today.

November 22, 2006 **Dana Devine**, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
"Canada's Blood System: Another Challenge in Sustainability?"

In the years since Canada's tainted blood scandal, many significant changes have occurred in the nation's blood system. These have taken place in the context of escalating health care costs and increasing complexity of services. This talk reviewed the scope of these changes and discussed whether a voluntary blood-donor system in Canada will remain a viable option for the future.



January 17, 2007

Nancy Nisbet, Art History, Visual Art & Theory and 2002-2003 Early Career Scholar "Exchange: A Performance in Shades of Gray"

Professor Nisbet's Exchange project is a performance of trade and relationship that drifts between communities. Out of the back of a 40-foot container truck, she freely traded – traded without negotiation – the entirety of her personal belongings to people encountered on her four-month road-trip around Canada and the United States. Professor Nisbet argued that exchange flows among and between the politics of international trade and economics, the hysteria concerning security and surveillance, and notions of contemporary identity – such are political trends.

January 31. 2007

Dianne Newell, Director's Inaugural Talk

"That Other Space: Emotional Geographies of an American Science Fiction Writer/Radical in Toronto in the 70s"

Dr. Newell explored the presence of emotional geographies, the relations and interactions, within the life and inscriptions of the science fiction writer, editor, and anthologist, Judith Merril (1923-1997). In 1968 at midlife, Merril left her position as a powerhouse in American science fiction because of the U.S. policy on Vietnam; she became a political and intellectual refugee in Toronto, where she worked as a Resource Person in Writing and Publishing at the legendary Rochdale College, as well as a CBC Radio documentarist and a memoirist. In the talk, Dr. Newell examined moving, mapping, and memoir in Judith Merril's extraordinary relations and interactions with Toronto, her place of radical hope and her last stop.

February 14, 2007

Gaby Pailer, Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies and 2005-2006 Early Career Scholar

"Economics of Desire: Women's Comedies in Germany from the 18th to the 20th Century"

Uniting couples is not only the focus of Valentine's Day, but it also has been a *leitmotif* of comedy from the age of Enlightenment through stages of realism up to concepts of alienation in 20th-century theatre. Dr. Pailer illustrated the development of comedy in German-speaking Europe by pointing out the particular characteristics of women's writing. Comedies by German women playwrights demonstrated particular interest in economic backgrounds and in women's roles within social frameworks and personal relationships. The talk provided new insights into a range of plays over the two centuries and discussed the various ways in which women playfully fought for empowerment.

February 28, 2007

Antony Sinclair, Zoology and 2007 Distinguished Scholar in Residence "Lessons for Ecology, Conservation, and Society from the Serengeti"

Species are being lost and resources are being consumed at unprecedented rates. Just how much can we lose? The loss of species affects the functioning of ecosystems. Ecosystems show properties that stem from the specific combination of species in that environment. As such, unexpected changes in species abundance can arise because of events many steps removed from them. Dr. Sinclair illustrated such events with elephants, lions, and antelopes in Serengeti. The lessons learned from the studies of the Serengeti and elsewhere including New Zealand and China, he argued, are relevant to the way society must manage its own systems for long-term sustainability.

March 14, 2007

Patricia Janssen, Health Care & Epidemiology, and **Elizabeth Simpson**, Medical Genetics and 2000-2001 Early Career Scholar

A Report on the Exploratory Workshop "Understanding the Origins of Violent Behaviour" (See page 31 for workshop details.)

March 28, 2007

John Beatty, Philosophy and Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies Program "Charles Kingsley's *Water Babies* (1863): A Fairy Tale (?) About Science and Religion in the Wake of Darwin"

Water Babies, the beloved Victorian fairy tale, is also a significant document in the early reception of Darwinism. It is especially interesting for its treatment of the theological dimensions of evolutionary thought. Dr. Beatty focused on why Kingsley chose to elaborate these issues in the form of a fairy tale and what Kingsley took to be the crux of the matter, namely, the highly contingent/accidental nature of evolutionary outcomes, including the existence of humankind.

April 11, 2007

Yves Tiberghien, Political Science and 2003-2004 Early Career Scholar "The Global Battle over the Governance of Agriculture Biotechnology"

Since the mid-1990s, a global battle has been unfolding between proponents of genetically modified organisms, including the United States, Canada, and Argentina, and proponents of a precautionary approach, clustered around the European Union and Japan. Dr. Tiberghien presented a political analysis for the resulting regulatory divergence. He



also advanced a framework of conditional regulatory tip-over in the wake of civil society mobilization. Dr. Tiberghien presented both aggregate data and summarized the insights from his extensive field research in the EU, Japan, Korea, and Switzerland as well as his knowledge of the situation in several other countries.

April 25, 2007

Alan Mackworth, Computer Science and 2007 Distinguished Scholar in Residence "Can Robots Do The Right Thing?"

Robots have already invaded our factories. Now they are infiltrating our homes as vacuum cleaners, our hospitals as surgical assistants, our armies as soldiers, our sports teams as soccer players, and our roads as smart cars. Can we trust them to do the right thing? Dr. Mackworth revealed how robotics will transform our psychological, economic, social, and ethical structures, and how new architectures for robots allow us to design them to be safer, more effective, and more reliable, thus more likely to do the right thing.

May 9, 2007 **Dinesh Pai**, Computer Science

A Report on the Exploratory Workshop "Sensorimotor Computation"
(See page 32 for workshop details.)

May 23, 2007

Karen Bakker, Geography and 2007 Distinguished Scholar in Residence "The Future of Canada's Water: Threats, Myths, and the (False) Spectre of the Thirsty United States"

Canadians' relationship with water is rife with contradictions. Images of pristine water are Canadian icons, yet Canada is one of the only developed countries not to have legally enforceable water quality standards, and we divert more water across large distances than any other nation. In exploring the cultural and scientific bases of our relationship with water, Dr. Bakker debunked some of our most entrenched water-related myths, summarized key research on critical threats to our waters, and outlined the contours of an alternative "culture of water."

Special Events

July 13, 2006

A Gala Event Co-hosted by the Peter Wall Institute and the Wall Financial Corporation to Honour Brett Finlay, Peter Wall Distinguished Professor

This evening of dining and dancing in the Vancouver Sheraton Wall Centre ballroom celebrated the outstanding research achievements of Brett Finlay, who received a special Peter Wall Institute Trustees' Prize for Exceptional Merit in Advanced Research. Peter Wall himself attended the Gala and, on behalf of the Trustees, presented Brett with a cheque for \$100,000 to match the value of Brett's recently awarded Canada Killam Research Prize for outstanding career achievement in the category of Health Sciences and a special framed certificate to commemorate the occasion. It was a lively and joyous evening.



October 27, 2006

Book Launch for Arif Dirlik: *Global Modernity: Modernity in the Age of Global Capitalism* (Paradigm, 2007)

Arif Dirlik, Professor Emeritus of the Department of History at Duke University and 2005 Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor, returned to the Institute in October for a launch of his new book *Global Modernity*, the completion of which had been his project while at the Institute in 2005. In this critical study, Dr. Dirlik argues that the present represents not the beginning of globalization, but its end. We are now in a new era of the unfolding of capitalism, which he calls "modernity in the age of global capitalism."

Earlier in the year, Dr. Dirlik had published a companion edited collection, *Pedagogies of the Global: Knowledge in the Human Interest* (Paradigm, 2006).

Peter Wall Institute Holiday Reception

This year's annual holiday reception attended by approximately 100 Faculty Associates, Trustees, and guests provided a unique opportunity for scholars from across the UBC campus to gather for lively conversation and networking. Attendees signed a special book of appreciation to thank Olav Slaymaker for his successful year as Acting Director of the Institute.

April 12, 2007

Book Launch: Valerie Raoul, Connie Canam, Angela D. Henderson, and Carla Paterson, editors: *Unfitting Stories: Narrative Approaches to Disease, Disability, and Trauma* (Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2007)

This event celebrated the publication of a collection of essays associated with the Institute's



interdisciplinary project and conference headed by Valerie Raoul, "Narratives of Disease, Disability, and Trauma." The project and conference were funded by a Peter Wall Institute Major Thematic Grant (1999-2003). *Unfitting Stories* addresses central issues about authority in medical and personal narratives and the value of cross- or interdisciplinary research in understanding such experiences.

May 4-5, 2007

Peter Wall Institute - CIHR Workshop: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Health Disparities, Structural Violence, and Social Suffering

This workshop was jointly sponsored with the Institute of Aboriginal Peoples' Health and the Institute of Gender and Health, under the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). It was convened by Joan Anderson, Professor Emerita, Nursing; Dianne Newell, Director; and

Olav Slaymaker, 2006 Acting Director. The workshop's purpose was to provide interested scholars in the humanities and social sciences and professional schools with an exploratory platform to engage in a collaborative research venture on human health, well-being, and health disparities in a global context, around the core concepts of structural violence and social suffering. The participants explored the relationship between structural violence, social suffering, and health disparities and contemplated a way forward in resolving these complex issues via a submission of a full research proposal to CIHR.

Plans to submit a 2008-2009 grant proposal to the CIHR were launched at a follow-up meeting of the local participants on May 7.

May 11, 2007

4th Annual Green College — Peter Wall Institute Interdisciplinary Wine Tasting and Food Grazing Event

This special annual event at Green College, arranged by one of our senior Faculty Associates, Don Brooks, celebrated the wines (Blue Mountain Winery) and foods of British Columbia.

June 13, 2007

Peter Wall Institute Summer Reception

"Celebrate Summer: An Evening of Jazz"

This summer event for Faculty Associates and guests featured excellent music by Brett Finlay's jazz band, the "Oscar Hicks Sextet," fine refreshments, conversation, and occasional dancing.

Trustees' Event

May 17, 2007

Annual Trustees' Appreciation Luncheon

The Trustees and Official Observers of the Wall Institute Board of Trustees joined Institute Director Dianne Newell and UBC President Stephen Toope, Chair of the Board of Trustees, for the second annual Trustees' Appreciation Luncheon. It was held following the spring meeting of the Trustees. The Distinguished Scholars in Residence participated as special guests. Following lunch, the group enjoyed watching a video of Brett Finlay being inducted as an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Financial Summary

Funding for the Institute comes from two endowments. The Peter Wall Endowment comprises Peter Wall's original gift of 6.5 million Wall Financial Corporation shares valued at \$15 million. The dividends from these shares support the residential programs and a major portion of the Institute's administration. The Hampton Endowment, a \$10 million fund dedicated to the Institute in 1994, supports the Thematic Programs and the balance of the administration costs.

For 2006-2007 the principal program expenditures were:

Thematic Programs

- \$ 6,000 for the Major Thematic Grant program
- \$ 71,000 for the Exploratory Workshops program
- \$ 52,000 for Theme Development Workshops, Colloquia, and Associates Forums

Residential Programs

- \$ 121,000 for the Peter Wall Distinguished Professor program
- \$ 72,000 for the Distinguished Scholars in Residence program
- \$ 74,000 for the Early Career Scholars program
- \$ 3,000 for the Distinguished Visiting Professor program
- \$ 44,000 for the Wall Summer Institute for Research program

Trustees Initiatives

\$100,000 for a Research Prize for the Peter Wall Distinguished Professor

The Institute leases its 12-room residential annex from the University of British Columbia at an annual rate of \$90,000 for a five-year term, which began in March 2006. Combined income from the rental of the Institute guest rooms and meeting rooms and from the Associates' events is applied against the operating costs of the facilities.

Facilities

The Institute occupies the top floor of the University Centre and the residential annex. The east wing includes the offices of the Director and staff, the research offices of the Distinguished Professor and Scholars in Residence, the Peter Wall Boardroom, and a lounge for the use of scholars currently in the residential programs.

Conference Rooms

The Institute operates two conference rooms in the west wing of the top floor of the University Centre. The large and small rooms, approximately 72 square meters (775 square feet) and 49 square meters (525 square feet), respectively, can be used separately or combined for meetings, talks, and meals. The rooms are separated by both a wooden and an acoustic partition. Both rooms open onto a large terrace with a sweeping view of the sea and mountains. Capacity for each room varies according to room set-up, to a combined maximum of 80 occupants. The conference rooms are wheelchair accessible. When not in use by the Institute for program events, the conference rooms can be rented by individuals and groups affiliated with the University or for University-sponsored events. Priority in booking the Institute facilities is given to research-related activities open to the University community.

Residence

Located at the northeast end of the University Centre is the Institute's guest residence of twelve non-smoking rooms. These superior rooms are well furnished, include desks and bookshelves, and offer a view of the ocean and mountains. All rooms include a full en-suite bathroom, a queen- or double-size bed, Internet connection, cable TV, telephone for local calls, and voice mail. The rooms can be booked individually or as two-room suites. When not in use by the Institute, the rooms will, until November 2007, be available to individuals or groups affiliated with the University or for University-sponsored events. Rental rates give preference to Institute program guests.

Income from the rental of conference and residence rooms is used to offset the operating costs of the facilities.

Please Note: The residential annex will be closed from November 2007 until March 2008 for renovations. It is expected that by about April 2008, the lower floor will be residential rooms, available for use only by Institute programs, and the top floor will be administrative and project offices.

Governance

The governing body of the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies is the Board of Trustees, as specified under the Deed of Trust for the Establishment of the Peter Wall Endowment, 1991. The Board of Trustees has overall responsibilities for policies, programs, and finances of the Institute. The Board of Trustees meets twice yearly. The Deed of Trust also specifies that the characteristics of the Institute "shall be developed by the President of the University." The UBC President at that time, David Strangway, assigned administrative responsibility for the Institute to the Faculty of Graduate Studies. This was changed in 2004 by then-President Martha Piper, and since January 1, 2005 the Institute has reported to the Office of the Vice-President for Research.

Board of Trustees

The five Trustees are the UBC President, two UBC-appointed Trustees, and two donor-appointed Trustees. As of June 30, 2007, they are:

Akbar Lalani, MD, Royal Columbian Hospital **= Robert H. Lee**, Prospero International Realty Inc. **= Leslie R. Peterson**, QC, Boughton Peterson Yang Anderson **= Stephen J. Toope**, UBC President (Chair) **= Sonya Wall**, Donor Family

Official Observers and Secretary to the Board of Trustees (as of June 30, 2007):

Brett Finlay, Peter Wall Distinguished Professor **John Hepburn**, UBC VP Research **George Mackie**, Acting UBC VP Academic and Provost **Dianne Newell**, Director, Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies **Terry Sumner**, UBC VP Administration and Finance, and Secretary to the Trustees **Bruno Wall**, Wall Financial Corporation

In June 2007 Terry Sumner retired as Secretary to the Board after serving with distinction in that capacity, assisted by Eunice Lui, since 1991. A search for a new Secretary is underway.

Management Committee of the Board of Trustees (dissolved as of May 17, 2007)

The Management Committee has been responsible for all financial aspects of the Institute. The budget, and all other financial matters, are first discussed by the Management Committee and then brought to the Trustees for approval or information. At the May 17, 2007 meeting of the Trustees the decision was made to eliminate the need for the Management Committee. Henceforth, the Trustees will be directly responsible for all financial aspects of the Institute, as allowed for in the Deed of Trust.

Committees

The **Advisory Committee** meets meets twice yearly or as required to discuss directions for the Institute and to recommend program changes. As of June 30, 2007, its members are:

Joan Anderson, Nursing = Michael Church, Geography = Anne Condon, Computer Science = Brett Finlay, Peter Wall Distinguished Professor (Vice-Chair) = David Jones, Zoology = Dianne Newell, Director, Peter Wall Institute (Chair) = Anthony Phillips, Psychiatry = George Sawatzky, Physics & Astronomy = Margaret Schabas, Philosophy (Leave of Absence) = Lawrence Ward, Psychology

The **Adjudication Committee** is charged with evaluating Major Thematic Grant and Exploratory Workshop Grant proposals. As of June 30, 2007, its members are:

John Beatty, Philosophy = Izak Benbasat, Sauder School of Business = Alison Buchan, Physiology = Sidney Katz, Pharmaceutical Sciences = Alan Mackworth, Computer Science (Leave of Absence) = Brian MacVicar, Psychiatry (Leave of Absence) = Dianne Newell, Director, Peter Wall Institute (Chair) = Arthur Ray, History = Rosemary Redfield, Zoology = Boris Sololev, Health Care & Epidemiology = Dan Weary, Agroecology

(Olav Slaymaker chaired this committee in the fall of 2006 as Acting Director, Peter Wall Institute.)

The **Junior Selection Committee** is charged with evaluating applications for Early Career Scholar appointments. As of June 30, 2007, its members are:

Maxwell Cameron, Political Science - Dana Devine, Pathology - Margery Fee, English - Dianne Newell, Director, Peter Wall Institute (Chair) - Peter Reiner, Psychiatry - Laurie Ricou, English - Janis Sarra, Law

The **Senior Selection Committee** is charged with evaluating applications for Distinguished Scholar in Residence appointments. As of June 30, 2007, its members are:

Susan Boyd, Law = James Brander, Sauder School of Business = Kenneth Carty, Political Science = Brett Finlay, Michael Smith Laboratories, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and Microbiology & Immunology = Andrew Macnab, Pediatrics = Dianne Newell, Director, Peter Wall Institute (Chair) = Alan Richardson, Philosophy

Faculty Associates

Associates of the Institute are those UBC tenure-track faculty members who are or have been a Principal Investigator on an Institute competitive award; have been selected as a Peter Wall Distinguished Professor, Distinguished Scholar in Residence, or Early Career Scholar; or who have been invited to serve on one of the Institute's committees.

Faculty of Applied Science

Joan Anderson, Nursing = Gertje Boschma, Nursing = Sheldon Cherry, Civil Engineering = Lyren Chiu, Nursing = Elizabeth Croft, Mechanical Engineering = Guy Dumont, Electrical & Computer Engineering = Robert Evans, Mechanical Engineering Sidney Fels, Electrical & Computer Engineering = John Grace, Chemical & Biological Engineering = Dana Grecov, Mechanical Engineering = Susan Herrington, Landscape Architecture = Antony Hodgson, Mechanical Engineering = Mihai Huzmezan, Electrical & Computer Engineering = Lee Iverson, Electrical & Computer Engineering = Minney, Nursing = Martha Salcudean, Mechanical Engineering = Septimiu Salcudean, Electrical & Computer Engineering = Jane Wang, Electrical & Computer Engineering = Rizhi Wang, Metals & Materials Engineering

Faculty of Arts

Siwan Anderson, Economics = Leonora Angeles, Women's Studies, Community & Regional Planning, and Centre for Human Settlements = Daphna Arbel, Classical, Near Eastern & Religious Studies = Barbara Arneil, Political Science = Karen Bakker, Geography = Anthony Barrett, Classical, Near Eastern & Religious Studies = Jon Beasley-Murray, French, Hispanic, & Italian Studies = John Beatty, Philosophy = Bill Benjamin, Music = Keith Benson, History = Susan Birch, Psychology = Alexia Bloch, Anthropology = Alejandra Bronfman, History = Maxwell Cameron, Political Science = Kenneth Carty, Political Science Michael Chandler, Psychology = Edith Chen, Psychology = Kalina Christoff, Psychology = Michael Church, Geography = Jane Coop, Music = Keith Benson, History = Lisa Cooper, Classical, Near Eastern & Religious Studies = Kenneth Craig, Psychology Dennis Danielson, English = Franco De Angelis, Classical, Near Eastern & Religious Studies = Anita DeLongis, Psychology Alexander Dick, English = Elizabeth Dunn, Psychology = Luciana Duranti, Library, Archival & Information Studies = Eric Eich, Psychology = Antje Ellermann, Political Science = Margery Fee, English = John Foster, English = Nancy Frelick, French, Hispanic & Italian Studies = Bryan Gick, Linguistics = Jim Glassman, Geography = Sima Godfrey, French, Hispanic & Italian Studies = Marketa Goetz-Stankiewicz, Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies = Graham Good, English = Gaston Gordillo, Anthropology = Sherrill Grace, English = Derek Gregory, Geography = Xiong Gu, Art History, Visual Art & Theory Sneja Gunew, English and Women's Studies = Todd Handy, Psychology = Amy Hanser, Sociology = Gunnar Hansson, Linguistics = Marwan Hassan, Geography = Steven Heine, Psychology = Joseph Henrich, Psychology and Economics = Daniel Hiebert, Geography = Brian Job, Political Science = Vinay Kamat, Anthropology = Alan Kingstone, Psychology = Eva Marie Kröller, English = Richard Kurth, Music = Merje Kuus, Geography = Christina Laffin, Asian Studies = Diana Lary, History Philippe Le Billon, Geography and Liu Institute = Darrin Lehman, Psychology = David Ley, Geography = Dominic Lopes, Philosophy = Christina Lupton, English = Patricia Marchak, Sociology = Christopher Marshall, Classical, Near Eastern & Religious Studies = Ralph Matthews, Sociology = Renisa Mawani, Sociology = William McKellin, Anthropology = Daniel

Moore, Geography and Forest Resources Management = Dianne Newell, History = Nancy Nisbet, Art History, Visual Art & Theory = Ara Norenzayan, Psychology = John O'Brian, Art History, Visual Art & Theory = Gaby Pailer, Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies = Anand Pandian, Anthropology and Institute of Asian Research = Catharine Rankin, Psychology Valerie Raoul, French, Hispanic & Italian Studies = Arthur "Skip" Ray, History = Angela Redish, Economics = Pilar Riaño Alcalá, Social Work and Family Studies = Alan Richardson, Philosophy = Laurie Ricou, English = Becki Ross, Sociology and Women's Studies = Wendy Roth, Sociology = Steven Savitt, Philosophy = Margaret Schabas, Philosophy = Mark Schaller, Psychology = Judy Segal, English = Robert Silverman, Music = Olav Slaymaker, Geography = Peter Suedfeld, Psychology Yves Tiberghien, Political Science = Eric Vatikiotis-Bateson, Linguistics = Gerry Veenstra, Sociology = Mark Vessey, English Lawrence Ward, Psychology = Stephen Ward, Journalism = Janet Werker, Psychology = Rhodri Windsor-Liscombe, Art History, Visual Art & Theory = Jonathan Wisenthal, English = Fei Xu, Psychology = Okan Yilankaya, Economics = Mark Zacher, Political Science = Daniyal Zuberi, Sociology

Sauder School of Business

Izak Benbasat, Management Information Systems **James Brander**, Strategy & Business Economics **Dale Griffin**, Marketing **Alan Kraus**, Finance **Maurice Levi**, Finance **Ken MacCrimmon**, Strategy & Business Economics **Steven Shechter**, Operations & Logistics **Thomas Ross**, Strategy & Business Economics **Danielle van Jaarsveld**, Organizational Behaviour & Human Resources **Ilan Vertinsky**, Operations & Logistics and Strategy & Business Economics

Faculty of Dentistry

Don Brunette, Oral Biological & Medical Sciences **David Sweet**, Oral Biological & Medical Sciences

Faculty of Education

Mark Beauchamp, Human Kinetics = Marla Buchanan, Educational & Counselling Psychology, & Special Education = Jo-Anne Dillabough, Educational Studies = Kadriye Ercikan, Educational & Counselling Psychology, & Special Education Mona Gleason, Educational Studies = Susan James, Educational & Counselling Psychology, & Special Education = Cynthia Nicol, Curriculum Studies = Peter Sexias, Curriculum Studies = Linda Siegel, Educational & Counselling Psychology, & Special Education = Patricia Vertinsky, Human Kinetics = Darren Warburton, Human Kinetics = Marvin Westwood, Educational & Counselling Psychology, & Special Education = John Willinsky, Language & Literacy Education = Brian Wilson, Human Kinetics Handel Wright, Educational Studies

Faculty of Forestry

Younes Alila, Forest Resources Management = Nicholas Coops, Forest Resources Management = Susan Grayston, Forest Sciences = Hamish Kimmins, Forest Sciences = Shawn Mansfield, Wood Science = John Richardson, Forest Sciences = Jack Saddler, Dean = Stephen Sheppard, Forest Resources Management and Landscape Architecture

College for Interdisciplinary Studies

(Formerly Research Units within the Faculty of Graduate Studies.)

Mandakranta Bose, Institute of Asian Research = Kai Chan, Institute for Resources, Environment, & Sustainability = Susan Cox, Centre for Applied Ethics = Julian Dierkes, Institute of Asian Research — Centre for Japanese Research = Thomas Hutton, Community & Regional Planning and Centre for Human Settlements = Abidin Kusno, Institute of Asian Research — Centre for Southeast Asian Studies = Hyung Gu Lynn, Institute for Asian Research — Centre for Korean Research = Tony Pitcher, Fisheries Centre and Zoology = Theresa Satterfield, Institute for Resources, Environment & Sustainability = Rashid Sumaila, Fisheries Centre

Faculty of Land and Food Systems

Keith Adams, UBC Botanical Garden & Centre for Plant Research and Botany **David Fraser**, Animal Welfare Program and Centre for Applied Ethics **Murray Isman**, Agroecology **Les Lavkulich**, Soil Science and Institute for Resources, Environment & Sustainability **Scott McKinley**, Agroecology **James Thompson**, Agricultural Science **Hennie van Vuuren**, Food Nutrition & Health and Wine Research Centre **Dan Weary**, Agroecology and Centre for Applied Ethics

Faculty of Law

Natasha Affolder = Joel Bakan = Ljiljana Biukovic, Law and Institute for European Studies = Susan Boyd = Christine Boyle Catherine Dauvergne = Robin Elliot = Douglas Harris = Marilyn MacCrimmon = Wesley Pue = Janis Sarra = Joseph Smith Mira Sundara Rajan = Claire Young

Faculty of Medicine

Patricia Baird, Medical Genetics = William Bowie, Infectious Diseases = Donald Brooks, Pathology and Chemistry Carolyn Brown, Medical Genetics = Robert Brunham, Infectious Diseases = Alison Buchan, Physiology = Michael Burgess, Medical Genetics and Centre for Applied Ethics = Anna Cellar, Nuclear Medicine and Radiology = Campbell Clark, Psychiatry = Michael Cox, Surgery = Dana Devine, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine = Leonard Foster, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology = John Gilbert, Health Sciences and College of Health Disciplines = Judith Hall, Pediatrics and Medical Genetics = Michael Hayden, Medical Genetics = Clyde Hertzman, Health Care & Epidemiology = Philip Hieter, Medical Genetics and Michael Smith Laboratories = William Honer, Psychiatry = Patricia Janssen, Health Care & Epidemiology Steven Jones, Medical Genetics = Dagmar Kalousek, Pathology = Karim Khan, Family Practice and Human Kinetics Timothy Kieffer, Physiology and Surgery = David Kuhl, Family Practice = Adrian Levy, Health Care & Epidemiology Ross MacGillivray, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology = Andrew Macnab, Pediatrics = Brian MacVicar, Psychiatry = Grant Mauk, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology = Barbara McGillivray, Medical Genetics = Heather McKay, Orthopaedics and Family Practice = Tim Oberlander, Pediatrics = Aleck Ostry, Health Care & Epidemiology = Anthony Phillips, Psychiatry = Neil Reiner, Infectious Diseases = Peter Reiner, Psychiatry = Wendy Robinson, Medical Genetics = Ann Rose, Medical Genetics = Fabio Rossi, Medical Genetics and Biomedical Research Centre = Elizabeth Simpson, Medical Genetics and Centre for Molecular

Medicine & Therapeutics = Boris Sobolev, Health Care & Epidemiology = Weihong Song, Psychiatry = David Speert, Pediatrics and Infectious Diseases = Mary Stephenson, Obstetrics & Gynaecology = Rusung Tan, Pathology = Peter von Dadelszen, Obstetrics & Gynaecology

Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Gail Bellward = Sidney Katz = John McNeill

Faculty of Science

lan Affleck, Physics & Astronomy = Vanessa Auld, Zoology = Philip Austin, Earth & Ocean Sciences = Martin Barlow, Mathematics = Mona Berciu, Physics & Astronomy = Michael Blades, Chemistry = Jörg Bohlmann, Michael Smith Laboratories and Botany = Michael Bostock, Earth & Ocean Sciences = Christopher Brion, Chemistry = Steve Calvert, Earth & Ocean Sciences = Cristina Conati, Computer Science = Anne Condon, Computer Science = Michael Doebeli, Mathematics and Zoology David Dolphin, Chemistry = Brett Finlay, Michael Smith Laboratories, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, and Microbiology & Immunology = Erin Gaynor, Microbiology & Immunology = Brett Gladman, Physics & Astronomy = John Gosline, Zoology Steven Hallam, Microbiology & Immunology = Michael Healey, Earth & Ocean Sciences = Nancy Heckman, Statistics Wolfgang Heidrich, Computer Science = Holger Hoos, Computer Science = William Hsieh, Earth & Ocean Sciences and Physics & Astronomy = Darren Irwin, Zoology = Brian James, Chemistry = François Jean, Microbiology & Immunology = Catherine Johnson, Earth & Ocean Sciences = David Jones, Zoology = Jürgen Kast, Chemistry and Biomedical Research Centre = Patrick Keeling, Botany = David Kirkpatrick, Computer Science = Charles Krebs, Zoology = Roman Krems, Chemistry = Hongbin Li, Chemistry = Xin Li, Michael Smith Laboratories and Botany = Alan Mackworth, Computer Science = Karon MacLean, Computer Science = Greg Martin, Mathematics = Gail Murphy, Computer Science = Andrew Ng, Physics & Astronomy = Sarah Otto, Zoology = Thomas Oxland, Orthopaedics and Mechanical Engineering = Dinesh Pai, Computer Science = Evgeny Pakhomov, Earth & Ocean Sciences = Rosemary Redfield, Zoology = Ronald Rensink, Computer Science and Psychology = Harvey Richer, Physics & Astronomy = Dale Rolfsen, Mathematics = George Sawatzky, Physics & Astronomy = Dolph Schluter, Zoology and Biodiversity Research Centre = Patricia Schulte, Zoology = Douglas Scott, Physics & Astronomy = Moshe Shapiro, Chemistry and Physics = Anthony Sinclair, Zoology = Terrance Snutch, Michael Smith Laboratories, Psychiatry, and Zoology = Vesna Sossi, Physics & Astronomy = Philip Stamp, Physics & Astronomy = Curtis Suttle, Earth & Ocean Sciences = Philippe Tortell, Botany and Earth & Ocean Sciences = William Unruh, Physics & Astronomy = Stephanie van Willigenburg, Mathematics Mark Vellend, Botany and Zoology = Yan "Alex" Wang, Chemistry = Tony Warren, Microbiology & Immunology = Michael Whitlock, Zoology = Stephen Withers, Chemistry = James Zidek, Statistics

Faculty Associates no longer at UBC

Raphael Amit = Patricia Arlin = Jutta Brunee = Ruth Buchanan = Michael Buzzelli = Alan Cairns = Catherine Carstairs Christine Chambers = James Dunn = Richard Ericson = Caroline Ford = Lawrence Green = Priscilla Greenwood = James Hogg = Robert Jackson = Mohan Matthen = Ruth Phillips = Kathleen Pichora-Fuller = Daniel Perlman = Nicholas Pippenger = Moura Quayle = Patrick Rysiew = Joseph Tennis = John Torpey = Leaf van Boven = Catherine Wilson = Paul Yachnin

Deceased Associates

Joel Bert = Keith Brimacombe = Peter Hochachka = Grant Ingram = Michael Smith

Fellows

Fellows of the Institute are those external researchers who have been selected for a residential program.

Distinguished Visiting Professors

Arif Dirlik (2005)

Summer Institute Fellows

Kenneth Abbott = Michael Alkire = Sonja Bartsch = Gyorgy Buzsak = Dante Chialvo = Jillian Clare Cohen-Kohler Stanislas Dehaene = Ronald Deibert = Nick Drager = Pascal Fries = Margaret Hilson = Jean-Philippe Lachaux = Kelley Lee Jean Lorenceau = Paul J. McAuley = David McCoy = Lionel Naccache = Thelma Narayan = James Orbinski = Jean-Michel Roy = Daniel Sahleyesus = Alfons Schnitzler = Paul Shaw = Wolf Singer = Devi Sridhar = Janice Stein = Giulio Tononi Y. Andrea Wang



The Institute aims to create a community of scholars,



composed of outstanding researchers across the whole campus,



who will contribute significantly to the intellectual life of the University.



Staff



Dianne Newell served as Acting Director for the period from January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2005. Following her sabbatical leave in 2006, she became full-time Director January 1, 2007. A Professor in the Department of History and former Distinguished Scholar in Residence, Dr. Newell's research interests include technology studies and socio-economic history at the margins of science and technology developments. She is an expert on Canada's Northwest coast Aboriginal and industrial fisheries and an international authority on industrial archaeology. A new area of research concerns the politics of post-war science/future fiction. In 2006, she was appointed to the International Board of Trustees of the new Institute for Advanced Study, Technical University of Munich.



Olaf Slaymaker, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Geography and Distinguished Scholar in Residence 2005, served as Acting Director for the period January 1 to December 31, 2006. He is an award-winning international expert in physical geomorphology and the environment of the cryosphere. A graduate of the University of Cambridge and Harvard University, Dr. Slaymaker has authored, co-authored, or edited nearly 20 books and received dozens of international awards and special honours.



Jenny MacKay joined the Institute in 2004 and was appointed Assistant to the Director in November 2005. Jenny has post-secondary training in history and brings to the Institute a depth of experience in the financial, marketing and promotions, and personnel training areas of the hospitality industry. Jenny is responsible for the day-to-day operations and marketing of the facilities and for personnel, program administration, and financial matters.



Markus Pickartz manages all Institute information systems, including computer networks and databases, in addition to Web and print publications, other publicity materials, and audio-visual system upgrades. He also occasionally designs and oversees renovations to the conference area and is involved in the current renovation of the residential annex. Markus has a BA in Theatre (Directing) from Arizona State University and a diverse and extensive background in IT systems, in academia (ASU Law Library) and as a freelance consultant.

At the end of the reporting period, the Institute is in the process of reorganizing its secretarial and clerical staffing arrangements.

Imprint

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Text Editors (Consultants)

Jennifer Fletcher and David Harrison

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The Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies is located within the University Centre in the cultural heart of the University of British Columbia. The Institute's facilities include two well-appointed conference rooms opening to a broad terrace with spectacular views of Howe Sound and the North Shore Mountains. The residential annex, adjacent to the University Rose Garden, has twelve fully equipped rooms.

The Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies has a variety of programs directed at supporting outstanding research. The Institute funds residential programs, encouraging the interaction of distinguished scholars from a variety of disciplines, and thematic programs, designed to sponsor speakers and collaborative research in interdisciplinary workshops, summer institutes for research, and teambased, multi-year research projects.

