Where Converging Minds Freely Explore
While the annual Director’s message typically appraises the events and accomplishments of the year under review and offers enticing glimpses into the future, a different message is surely called for when one is stepping down after many years, as I am now. My plan is to reflect on the directions of the Institute over the decade for which I have intimate knowledge.

There were, of course, things new and special about the Institute in 2011. Two absolutely critical appointments were made: Janis Sarra, as incoming Director, and Derek Gregory as a Peter Wall Distinguished Professor. Janis Sarra, who takes office on January 1, 2012, is a prominent UBC specialist in corporate law, commercial insolvency, corporate finance, and securities law with a long history of commitment to the Institute. Derek Gregory is an internationally renowned human geographer, whose work skillfully bridges the humanities and social sciences and thus also complements the expertise and interests in the life sciences of our other Wall Distinguished Professor, Brett Finlay. Gregory’s opening lecture on “The Everywhere War” was the fall program of the new Wall Exchange, a novel series of free public lectures in downtown Vancouver. The Exchange had been launched on May 3, 2011 with a talk by one of the world’s leading visionaries, J. Craig Venter, on “Synthetic Life.” Both talks were broadcast nationally in the CBC Radio “Ideas” series.

The Institute has always been a progressive place inspiring interdisciplinarity, collaboration, and risk taking. The calibre of its work in these respects has only improved with age, as
exemplified by the selection of Sarah (Sally) Otto, UBC evolutionary biologist, early Wall Distinguished Scholar in Residence, and current member of the Institute’s Academic Advisory Committee, as a 2011 MacArthur Fellow for her scientific brilliance and creativity. Most rewarding to me in particular have been the ways in which the Institute’s thematic, residential, and new international partnership programs increasingly expand and mesh with the intellectual engagement of the Institute in the world. This intersection and expansion of programs and growing international involvement has been especially evident since 2005, with the inauguration of both the Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor program and the Wall Summer Institute for Research (WSIR). Both programs have had many positive impacts internationally, including the launching of our International Partnership program with the Collège de France in 2008. The first Visiting Professor, Arif Dirlik, not only completed a seminal monograph on global modernity at the Institute but returned frequently to co-lead successful initiatives, including most recently the 2008 WSIR on “Global Capital and the Future of Agrarian Society” and follow-up visit to China in 2009; a related volume co-edited by Dirlik and Alexander Woodside is to be published in 2012. It was the success of gala public talks given in conjunction with this WSIR that spawned the idea for the Wall Exchange.

The number of books and special issues of journals emerging over the years from Institute programs have been exceptional, bringing national and international recognition to our programs and to UBC scholars and contributing materially to debates across all academic fields. In other media, audio podcasts of talks by Faculty Associates and visiting scholars have since January 2008 been available for download on the Institute’s website, as have video recordings of keynote speakers as well as the French Consulate in Vancouver interviews with the Wall Distinguished Visiting Professors from the Collège de France. The Collège also posts these and many other audio podcasts and videos resulting from our partnership on its own homepage, a site that further raises the profile of the Peter Wall Institute to another million-plus visitors per year.

In revitalizing the Major Thematic Grant (MTG) program in 2007, the Institute not only attracted international attention to its UBC researchers and external collaborators, but also generated two of the three international Wall Colloquia Abroad co-sponsored with STIAS in 2009 has been critical to the lengthy development of protocols and research teams for this extraordinarily promising and high-risk MTG project now in its early stages.

While the future of the Institute appears favourable, one serious impediment that my predecessor Kenneth MacCrimmon always faced and that has not been easily overcome has to do with the Institute’s finances: the lack of predictable and stable funding. Completely endowment-funded, the Institute relies at this point almost entirely on dividend income from a large donation of shares in a single company. Although high dividend earnings have accrued over the past three years, the timing and value of the dividends from the beginning has fluctuated widely. However, our recent efforts with the Institute’s Trustees and senior UBC administrators to address the problem promise to achieve financial security very soon. There remains the challenge posed by the Institute’s complex governing structure and unique standing at UBC. I have learned the critical need to nurture the academic integrity and academic independence of the Institute if the place is truly to represent something exceptional. And I have learned never to take the existence and quality of the Peter Wall Institute for granted.

On a personal note, over the ten years in which I moved through the stages of Scholar in Residence, Acting Director, and Director, with a year off somewhere in there for a leave, I have always felt appreciated, respected, and trusted by Faculty Associates, Trustees, and international partners. I consider this level of professional support a remarkable gift, one that enabled me to build on the excellent intellectual footings created by Ken MacCrimmon. I am honoured to have been so intimately associated with the Institute for so long and wish nothing but the very best to Janis Sarra as she brings her own energy and ideas to the role.

Dianne Newell
INCOMING DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

I am honoured to serve as Director of the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies, commencing January 1, 2012. Under the stewardship of outgoing Director Dianne Newell, Peter Wall Distinguished Professor Brett Finlay, and President Toope and the Board of Trustees, the Institute has grown its programs and level of engagement in recent years. In particular, the international partnership programs have allowed the Institute new opportunities for intellectual engagement with leading scholars internationally. On behalf of all Associates of the Institute, I would like to thank Dianne Newell for her vision, her energy and her years of dedicated service as director. It has been a pleasure working with her during the transition period in the fall of 2011, participating in the development of programs for the coming year. Critically important to the success of the Institute’s programs has been the support of the administrative and program management staff, Barbara Harrmann, Emma MacEntee and Jana Berna, and I am delighted to be working with such a professional and hard-working team. I am also privileged to be working closely with the two Distinguished Peter Wall Professors, Drs. Brett Finlay and Derek Gregory.

During the first two weeks of my directorship, more than 200 Institute associates, faculty members, Deans and Heads of Department at UBC participated in strategic planning sessions, discussing the strengths, challenges and opportunities for the Institute. These sessions will form the foundation of a renewed strategic plan and a series of initiatives to be launched in the spring of 2012. I look forward to working with scholars involved in projects the Institute has recently approved, particularly Dr. David Speert, Pediatrics, and his co-investigators in the newly funded Major Thematic Grant on the Exploration of the Causes of Enhanced Morbidity and Mortality for HIV-Exposed but Unaffected Infants; the continued work of Professor Dinesh Pai and his co-investigators in a Major Thematic Grant on Sensorimotor Computation and the scholars involved in the highly innovative upcoming Exploratory Workshops. It is my hope that the Peter Wall Institute can continue to build on the strengths of its existing programs, while exploring new ideas, initiatives and innovative thinking.

Janis Sarra
Residential programs are people-based programs whereby excellent researchers are invited to be in residence (of varying intensities) with others chosen on the same basis. These programs are deliberately nonthematic. There is no attempt to choose people based on disciplinary background, and while there are very specific activities intended to bring people together, there is no specific joint end-product that is expected.
The Peter Wall Distinguished Professor is a unique appointment at UBC directed at attracting or retaining a world-class scholar who will have a major impact on broad areas of research. As an endowed chair, it provides substantial salary support. For scholars appointed after 2010, the salary support is for a five-year term, renewable once.

This distinguished professorship marked the first program of the Institute. It was established in 1994, originally as two endowed chairs, held by Dr. Raphael Amit, Sauder School of Business, and the late Dr. Michael Smith, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and Nobel Laureate in Chemistry.

In July 2002, UBC President Martha Piper appointed Dr. Brett Finlay as the new Peter Wall Institute Distinguished Professor; his appointment was renewed in 2007. The latest Wall Professor is Dr. Derek Gregory, Geography, appointed on behalf of the Institute by UBC President Stephen J. Toope July 1, 2011.
Brett Finlay, OC, OBC, FRSC, FCAHS joined the University as an Assistant Professor in 1989 and was appointed Peter Wall Distinguished Professor as of July 1, 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’s research on how the enteropathogenic and enterohemorrhagic strain of E. coli attaches to intestinal cells led to the development of a vaccine for cattle which will reduce the threat of future outbreaks such as occurred in Walkerton, Ontario. The bovine E. coli vaccine that he developed has been commercialized.

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. From this experimental setting, Dr. Finlay has involved himself in broadening the line of research at UBC, expanding it to the area of emerging infectious diseases generally. His latest research includes work on microbiota in the gut and its implications for diseases such as asthma. At the Peter Wall Institute, Dr. Finlay is an active participant in functions and meets regularly with the various Associates and Scholars in Residence. His Wall Woodwind Quintet (the WW5) is made up of Institute Faculty Associates and has performed on several occasions at Associates’ gatherings. He is an Official Observer on the Institute’s Board of Trustees, a member of the Senior Selection Committee, and he has worked very closely with Director Dianne Newell and the Peter Wall Advisory Committee, of which he is vice-chair. Dr. Finlay sits on the CIHR Governing Committee Council and its Executive Committee and Governance Committee. He was appointed Officer of the Order of Canada in 2006 and was appointed to the Order of British Columbia in 2007. His latest honour is the 2009 Canadian Society of Microbiologists Roche Diagnostics Award.

Under the memoranda of understanding with our Partner Institute, the Collège de France, Dr. Finlay was appointed a Chair d’État Collège de France in May 2011 and hosted the visit to the Wall Institute of his counterpart at the Collège, Professor Philippe Sansonetti. While at the Collège, Dr. Finlay co-directed the Wall Colloquium Abroad “Commensal Microbiota: From Homeostasis to Disease.”
Derek Gregory, FRSC, FBA, Dr. h.c. (Roskilde), Dr. h.c. (Heidelberg) joined the University as a full Professor in 1989 and was appointed Peter Wall Distinguished Professor as of July 1, 2011.

Dr. Gregory, who is one of the most cited geographers internationally, trained as an historical geographer at the University of Cambridge. For the first sixteen years, his research focused on the historical geography of industrialization and on the relations between social theory and human geography, using each program of research to inform and advance the other. He focused on processes of historical and geographical change—on periods of crisis and transformation—and explored a range of critical theories that showed how place, space, and landscape have been involved in the operation and outcome of social processes.

His first book, Ideology, Science and Human Geography (1978), was simultaneously a critique of spatial science and an ambitious agenda for the development of a critical human geography. His subsequent study, published as Regional Transformation and Industrial Revolution (1982), was staged on the classic ground of E. P. Thompson's The Making of the English Working Class, and it was inspired by Thompson’s belief in the powers of conscious, collective human agency; but it also drew attention to the structural templates of early industrial capitalism and to the new spaces through which they were put in place.

Dr. Gregory’s move to Vancouver coincided with a major change in his research direction. His interest in social theory continued—indexed by his involvement with the interdisciplinary journal Society and Space and his co-editorship of The Dictionary of Human Geography over five editions—but it was now reinforced by a growing interest in postcolonial critique. He outlined his ideas in Geographical Imaginations (1989), and put them to work in an exploration of cultures of travel and travel writing. This new phase of work owed much to Edward Said’s critique of Orientalism, but it was much more concerned with the corporeality and physicality of travel. And it paid attention not only to what travellers and tourists wrote, but also to what they mapped, sketched, and photographed—and to the consequences these representations had for their encounters. The results of these studies will appear as Dancing on the Pyramids: Orientalism and Cultures of Travel.

This work on travel and travel writing was interrupted by the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. Drawing on his training as an historical geographer and his sense of the renewed power of Orientalism, he traced the long history of British and American involvements in the “Middle East” and showed how these affected the cultural, political, and military responses to 9/11. The Colonial Present: Afghanistan, Palestine, Iraq (2004) showed how war quite literally takes place. This project also marked Dr. Gregory’s determination to bring his work to audiences beyond the academy through his writing and through public lectures around the world. His new book, The Everywhere War, will show how the conduct of war is shaped by the spaces through which it is conducted. His new research project, Killing space, is a critical study of the techno-cultural and political dimensions of air war.

Dr. Gregory gave the fall downtown public lecture in the Wall Exchange series and has been invited to present the British Academy’s Annual Lecture in London in 2012.
DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS IN RESIDENCE

Up to six one-year appointments of outstanding senior UBC scholars are made each year. Scholars take up research offices at the Institute; among other activities at the Institute they present a talk on their research, participate in a two-day research retreat, and meet together on a weekly basis.

Six scholars took up their awards in April 2011: Maxwell Cameron, Political Science; Guy Dumont, Electrical & Computer Engineering; Fabio Rossi, Medical Genetics; Rena Sharon, School of Music; John Steeves, ICORD; and Richard Unger, History.

The Distinguished Scholars selected for 2012 are: Michael Chandler, Emeritus Professor, Psychology; Barbara Dancygier, Professor, English; Thomas Grigliatti, Professor, Zoology; and Eric Margolis, Professor, Philosophy.
Maxwell Cameron  
Professor, Political Science

Max Cameron is a comparative Latin Americanist who has taken a deep interest in the political challenges taking place in Latin America, particularly the challenges to democracy. Along the way, he has taken productive detours into such topics as the global campaign to ban land mines. Dr. Cameron is a committed communicator who blogs on the Peruvian elections, gives an impressive number of media interviews on a wide range of subjects, and speaks at major international meetings.

Dr. Cameron spent his graduate years at the University of California, Berkeley, after which he taught at Carleton University in Ottawa for ten years before coming to UBC as an Associate Professor in 1999, becoming a full professor in 2002. He has headed up two Wall Exploratory Workshops, on “Threats to Democracy in Latin America (2000)” and on “Latin America’s LeftTurns?” (2007), both of which led to edited collections.

His ambitious project at the Institute this year is developing a book, “Between Rules and Practice: Why We Need Practical Wisdom in Politics.” To this end, he has launched a seminar series by the same title with outstanding speakers from a variety of disciplines, co-sponsored by Green College. The series asks what moral skill and personal will we need as citizens, professionals, parents, and friends to know how to act in particular circumstances—a question that is intended both to deepen his own analysis and stimulate discussion across the campus. He also organized, in his capacity as Director of the Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions, a high-powered public forum on the topic “Why Don’t More Good People Enter Politics?” which featured former Prime Minister Paul Martin and a host of other influential Canadians.

Dr. Cameron’s Scholar in Residence talk will be given on February 29, 2012 and will be available after that date as an audio podcast on the Institute’s website.
Guy Dumont is an expert in Process Control Engineering who developed and implemented one of the first successful industrial adaptive control schemes in the world in 1976. Several of his technologies have been successfully transferred to industry over the years. Motivated by a Wall Exploratory Workshop he co-directed, Dr. Dumont switched topics a decade ago to the field of biomedical engineering, where he researches physiological monitoring and control in critical care, most especially anesthesiology.

Dr. Dumont took his engineering diploma at the École Nationale Supérieure d'Arts et Métiers, Paris. He obtained his doctorate in Electrical Engineering at McGill University in 1977 and then spent over twenty years in private industry before being recruited to UBC in 1989. From 1989 to 1999, he held the senior Paprican/NSERC Industrial Chair in Industrial Process Control and worked closely with pulp and paper companies and suppliers. He has also served as Director of the Pulp and Paper Centre at UBC. He is, among other achievements, an elected fellow of both the Canadian Academy of Engineering and the IEEE, and a two-time winner of the NSERC Synergy Award.

During his year at the Wall Institute, Dr. Dumont is focusing on global health, particularly on affordable technology for mobile health based on mobile phones for underdeveloped countries. Towards this goal, he and his collaborator at the BC Children’s Hospital have contributed $250K of their recently-awarded Brockhouse Canada Prize for Interdisciplinary Research In Science and Engineering to developing the Phone Oximeter. This device is a smartphone-based pulse oximeter for respiratory disease and management in the developing world. His aim is to make the Phone Oximeter universally available.

Dr. Dumont’s Scholar in Residence talk, “Comfortably Numb: Cruise Control for Anesthesia,” is available as an audio podcast on the Institute’s website.
The overarching theme of Dr. Rossi's research is the investigation of the mechanisms underlying tissue responses to damage and degenerative disease. His research has highlighted the need for a different approach to tissue regeneration: namely, one that focuses not on individual components studied in isolation, but rather on the whole complex regenerative milieu. He and his lab have developed a number of techniques aimed at rare stem cell identification and purification, leading them to pioneering techniques such as high-content flow cytometry at UBC; Dr. Rossi is at present directing the shared flow cytometry facility serving nearly fifty labs on campus and a number of local companies.

Dr. Rossi earned his MD at the University of Genoa and PhD in Molecular Biology at the European Molecular Biology Laboratories, University of Heidelberg in 1996. Following a few years spent as a Research Scientist and post-doc at Stanford University, and a Visiting Junior Scholar at the Peter Wall Institute, he was recruited to UBC as an Assistant Professor and Canada Research Chair in 2001, becoming a full professor in 2011. Dr. Rossi is known for his remarkable ability to simultaneously maintain productive, well-funded programs in diverse fields, which is rare in his hyper-specialized scientific community.

At the Institute this year, Dr. Rossi will lead two workshops. One will be a small, interdisciplinary exploratory meeting on bone regeneration to discuss how to integrate multidisciplinary expertise aimed at formulating a coherent approach to bone regeneration that is also in line with the recent and foreseen progress in personalized medicine. The other is a planning workshop to create a multidisciplinary regenerative network in Vancouver and organize an international symposium on this topic.

Dr. Rossi’s Scholar in Residence talk, “The Hype About Stem Cells: Ethical and Practical Implications of Recent Advances in Stem Cell Research,” is available as an audio podcast on the Institute’s website.
Rena Sharon is a pianist who is one of Canada’s leading collaborative performing artists and piano chamber musicians. She also stands out as one who is deeply interested in knowing what science can offer to an understanding of creative processes. Professor Sharon is known for her personal commitment to the relevance of music to the widest range of human conditions and endeavours. She is collaborating with lawyers to explore the keys found in music making that open doors to better interactions between people dealing with differences that require mediation and conciliation. She is also working with neuroscientists on the theory that what is being learned in the study of the brain gains much from how the process of music making can be tracked to reveal unusual combinations of neural pathways. Recently she founded and now directs the Vancouver International Song Institute, a multidisciplinary entity with an annual festival committed to exploring all aspects of texts and musics of the song literature, and how the study and performance of song literature serves the human need to connect one to another.

Professor Sharon received her undergraduate degree in Music from the Eastman School of Music and her Master of Music in Piano Performance at Indiana University. She taught at the Department of Music, Oklahoma State University, and at the Victoria Conservatory of Music, where she was Head of Collaborative Music before taking up her UBC appointment in 1982. In 2007, she led a Wall Exploratory Workshop, “Art Song Anima.”

Professor Sharon is planning a series of meetings at the Institute to begin identifying problems of image, perception, translation, and communication within the ranks of artist faculty. She hopes this will lead to a more formal workshop to consider ways of including artists in the expanding global interdisciplinary dialogue.

Professor Sharon’s Scholar in Residence presentation will be given on January 25, 2012 and will be available after that date as an audio podcast on the Institute’s website.
John Steeves is a neuroscientist whose research interests focus on the mechanisms essential to facilitate functional repair after spinal cord injury using a range of approaches. He recently stepped down after fifteen years as the Founding Director of ICORD, an interdisciplinary centre with 300 researchers and over 40 faculty investigating a broad range of issues and research questions in the field of spinal cord injury. Dr. Steeves was educated at the University of Manitoba, with a BSc in Zoology and Psychology and a PhD in Neuroscience and Physiology (1978). After his post-doctoral training in Physiology at the University of Alberta, he was appointed to UBC as an Associate Professor in the Department of Zoology and the Graduate Program in Neuroscience. Since 1987, he has been associated with several departments and programs in the Faculty of Medicine. He is also a co-investigator on the Wall Major Thematic Grant project on Sensorimotor Computation (2008-2011).

At the Institute, Dr. Steeves is examining the interdisciplinary integration of computer-guided, robot-assisted rehabilitation strategies for arm and hand function after neurological injury. This topic integrates engineering, computer science, biology, and medicine. He is also continuing to develop lectures and publications on the translation of basic science discoveries to an applied setting. This latter topic has potential for development as a Peter Wall Institute workshop and would attract a broad audience from UBC and beyond.

Dr. Steeves’ Scholar in Residence talk, “Traversing Clinical Trials,” is available as an audio podcast on the Institute’s website.
Richard Unger specializes in medieval and early modern economic history, the history of medieval technology, maritime history, and environmental history. Within these various fields, he concentrates chiefly on north-western Europe, the Netherlands in particular, and has developed an unusually broad chronological range, covering both the medieval and early modern eras.

Dr. Unger completed his master’s degrees in History and Economics and a doctorate in History at Yale University in 1971. His many awards and distinctions since joining the UBC Department of History in 1969 include the Donnelley Family Fellowship, National Humanities Center; Visiting Fellow, All Souls College, University of Oxford; Fellow, Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study; Visiting Research Fellow, Clare Hall, University of Cambridge; Visiting Fellow, International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam; John Lyman Book Award of the North American Society of Oceanic History; UBC Killam Research Prize, and John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship.

Dr. Unger’s research agenda at the Institute involves two new and interrelated publication projects on historic energy systems: on energy sources used in Canada since 1800, and on energy carriers in early modern Europe (1500-1800), site of the world’s first fossil-fuel energy revolution. These two projects begin to demonstrate how different energy sources, not just fossil fuels, have driven modern economic growth and how various energy sources (fossil, wind, water, biomass, etc.) have distinctive advantages and negative environmental impacts. In October, Dr. Unger headed a Peter Wall Institute Colloquium Abroad on the topic of energy sustainability in early modern Europe at one of our three partner institutes, the Technical University of Munich, Institute for Advanced Studies, co-hosted by the Deutsches Museum.

Dr. Unger’s Scholar in Residence talk, “Energy Consumption and the Environmental Impact of the Black Death,” is available as an audio podcast on the Institute’s website.
DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS RESEARCH EVENTS

If research events at the Institute, such as a workshop or a lecture series, would complement the scholarly plans of Distinguished Scholars in Residence, an additional sum is provided for such purposes.

March 30–31, 2011
Articulations of Fairness through Dance, Dialogue, Space
Janis Sarra (2010–2011), Law
A two-day dance atelier on Bowen Island that introduced invited participants to the very diverse conceptions of fairness that inform scholarship and engage involvement in broader society. Margie Gillis, la Fondation de danse Margie Gillis, and Gail Lotenberg, Artistic Director, LINK Dance Foundation, co-facilitated the event.

April 1, 2011
Creating New Landscapes in Notions of Fairness
Janis Sarra (2010–2011), Law
A one-day public forum that explored notions of fairness through interdisciplinary presentations and launched the outdoor art installation by Luisa Milan, “The Texture of Fairness.”

April 9–10, 2011
Trans-boundary Crisis Management
Ilan Vertinsky (2010–2011), Sauder School of Business, Institute of Asian Research, and IRES
A two-day workshop, co-sponsored with SSHRC, on crisis management and how governments, non-government organizations, and communities cope with crises and increase their resilience to disasters; its purpose was to launch an international collaborative research project to improve societal capacity for crisis prevention and response.

June 27–28, 2011
Scientific Authority within Democratic Societies
Mark Warren (2010–2011), Political Science
A two-day international workshop bringing together high profile scholars and practitioners from political theory, science, and science governance to discuss the authority of science and expertise in the context of institutional innovations in the democratic governance of science.
September 29, 2011
Practical Wisdom: Aristotle’s Ethics and Obedience to Authority

Maxwell Cameron (2011–2012), Political Science
A colloquia series, co-sponsored by Green College and the UBC Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions, with a talk by Sylvia Berryman, Department of Philosophy, UBC.

October 25, 2011
Practical Wisdom: Breaking the Rules/Making the State: Machiavelli and Practical Wisdom

Maxwell Cameron (2011–2012), Political Science
A colloquia series, co-sponsored by Green College and the UBC Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions, with a talk by Jane Jaquette, Bertha Harton Orr Professor of Liberal Arts, Occidental College.

November 17, 2011
Practical Wisdom: The Search for the Beginnings of Wisdom: Agency, Intentionality, and Responsibility in Childhood

Maxwell Cameron (2011–2012), Political Science
A colloquia series, co-sponsored by Green College and the UBC Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions, with a talk by David Olsen, Professor Emeritus, OISE and University of Toronto, and author of *The World on Paper*.

November 24–25, 2011
Why Don’t (More) Good People Enter Politics (and What Can Be Done About It?)

Maxwell Cameron (2011–2012), Political Science
Public conversations with leading Canadian public figures and media personalities, co-sponsored by the UBC Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Vancouver Sun, Canadian National Railway, and CBC.
This program brings together for one year outstanding tenure-track faculty from diverse disciplines at the early stages of their careers at UBC. At present, there is a single cohort made up of beginning untenured Assistant Professors and newly tenured and promoted Associate Professors. Those who are full members of UBC’s Institute for Computing, Information, and Cognitive Systems (ICICS) are co-funded by ICICS.

The 2011-2012 cohort took up their appointments September 1, 2011.
2010-2011 Early Career Scholars on a Lab Crawl 2011

From left to right: Simon Donner, Ludovic Van Waerbeke, Michael Low, Joanna McGrenere, Emma Cunliffe, Jessica de Villiers, Jöel Castonguay-Bélanger, Purang Abolmaesumi, Matthew Bedke

Missing from photograph: Bo Earle
Rafeef Abugharbieh, Associate Professor
Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering

Dr. Abugharbieh received her PhD, Technical Licentiate, and MSc (with distinction) degrees from the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Chalmers University in Göteborg, Sweden. A registered member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia (PEng, APEGBC), she is a UBC Killam Faculty Research Fellow, senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), and member of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (EMBS) and Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention (MICCAI) Society. Her research is in the area of biomedical image computing - in particular, in the modeling, quantification, segmentation, fusion, interpretation, and visualization of multi-modal, multi-dimensional medical image data. She is co-founder and co-director of the Biomedical Signal and Image Computing Lab (BiSICL), a multidisciplinary research laboratory focusing on visual computing in biomedical imaging. Research there combines aspects of signal and image processing, image analysis, computer vision, computational geometry, applied mathematics, geometrical and statistical modeling, computer graphics, virtual and enhanced reality, and human–computer interaction.

Lori Brotto, Associate Professor
Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Division of Gynaecologic Oncology

Lori Brotto received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of British Columbia and completed a Fellowship in Reproductive and Sexual Medicine at the University of Washington. She directs the UBC Sexual Health Laboratory, where research primarily focuses on developing and testing psychological/psychoeducational interventions for women with sexual desire and arousal difficulties and women with chronic genital pain. Other major lines of research include exploring sexuality and reproductive health in ethnic minority women, studying the intracrinology of androgen metabolites in women’s desire, asexuality, and sexuality after cancer. Lori is the recipient of a Career Scholar Award from the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research as well as a New Investigator Award from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. She is one of four members of the Sexual Dysfunctions sub-workgroup for the fifth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. She is a registered psychologist in Vancouver.
Sarah Burke, Assistant Professor  
Department of Physics & Astronomy and Chemistry

Sarah completed her BSc in Physics at Dalhousie University in 2002 and received her MSc and PhD (2009) in Experimental Condensed Matter Physics at McGill University. She was awarded a NSERC Postdoctoral fellowship that brought her to the University of California Berkeley for 2009–2010. She was appointed to Chemistry and Physics & Astronomy to the University of British Columbia in July 2010, where she holds a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair. Sarah’s research focuses on understanding the structure and properties of nanoscale interfaces using scanning probe microscopy. These studies are aimed at understanding the fundamental processes that govern behaviour in materials relevant for future technologies such as organic electronics and photovoltaics. A substantial effort in the Burke lab will be devoted to the development of new tools needed for studying light–matter interactions on the nanoscale.

Leila Harris, Assistant Professor  
Institute for Resources, Environment & Sustainability (IRES) and Centre for Women’s & Gender Studies (CWAGS)

Leila completed her BA in Political Economy of Industrialized Societies at the University of California, Berkeley in 1993 and then obtained a MA and PhD (2004) in Geography at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Trained as a socio-cultural and political geographer, her work examines social, cultural, and political-economic dimensions of environmental and resource issues, especially in developing contexts. Much of her work has highlighted water politics, use, and access in the Middle East, particularly associated with large-scale transformations of the upper Tigris-Euphrates basin. She has explored a range of issues linked to ongoing environmental and developmental transformations associated with Turkey’s GAP project, from gender and ethnic inequalities to narratives of nature and state building in the politically marginalized southeastern Anatolia region. Current research efforts include attention to socio-spatial difference and narrative as key dimensions of environmental politics and citizenship. Working from the case of contemporary Turkey, this work connects everyday expressions of environmental issues to broader debates related to postcolonialism, affect, green citizenship, and subjectivity.

Christiane Hoppmann, Assistant Professor  
Department of Psychology

Christiane’s program of research addresses the role of social contextual factors and goal-relevant processes for health and well-being across the adult lifespan. She completed a PhD (2004) in Psychology at the Free University, Berlin and held post-doctoral fellowships at Georgia Tech, Atlanta, and the University of Fribourg, Switzerland before taking up her appointment at the University of British Columbia in 2008. Her research mission is to understand the socio-motivational mechanisms by which external challenges get “under the skin,” ultimately putting the individual at risk for the development of physical and mental health problems. Specific research foci include examining social interrelations in health trajectories using long-term longitudinal information from multiple network members; studying the everyday processes that may contribute to socially interrelated long-term health outcomes as individuals engage in their typical daily life routines; and focusing on goal-related processes as one particularly important mechanism that influences how individuals appraise and approach daily life situations.

Laura Hurd Clarke, Associate Professor  
School of Human Kinetics

Laura graduated with a Master of Social Work from Wilfrid Laurier University and a PhD (2000) in Sociology from McMaster University. Her areas of expertise are in qualitative methods as well as the sociology of aging, the body, and health, with a particular focus on older women, body image, and embodiment. She has two current projects: first, a SSHRC-funded study of how older adults experience multiple chronic conditions in their daily lives; the second, funded by a Canadian Institutes of Health Research Emerging Team Grant, a national, interdisciplinary study that is working to better understand and improve older adults’ use of powered mobility. Laura recently published *Facing Age: Growing Older in Anti-Aging Culture* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2010).
Kevin Leyton-Brown, Associate Professor
Department of Computer Science

Kevin received a BSc from McMaster University and his MSc and PhD (2003) from Stanford University. Much of his work is at the intersection of computer science and microeconomics, addressing computational problems in economic contexts and incentive issues in multiagent systems. Specifically, he has studied computational game theory (e.g., techniques for compactly representing and reasoning about large normal-form games), mechanism design (e.g., designing peer-to-peer file-sharing systems that encourage users to contribute), and auctions (e.g., proposing and analyzing algorithms for determining the winners of combinatorial auctions). He also studies the application of machine learning to the automated design and analysis of algorithms for solving hard computational problems. He has co-written two books, Multiagent Systems and Essentials of Game Theory, and over sixty peer-refereed technical articles. He is an associate editor of the Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research (JAIR) and of the Artificial Intelligence Journal (AIJ). He has served as a consultant for Trading Dynamics Inc., Ariba Inc., and Cariocas Inc., and is currently scientific advisor to Zite Inc.

Larry Lynd, Associate Professor
Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Larry Lynd received his undergraduate degree in Pharmacy in 1986 and his PhD (2002) from the Department of Health Care & Epidemiology at the University of British Columbia. He then completed a 2-year post-doctoral fellowship in Health Economics at McMaster University before returning to UBC as an Assistant Professor, becoming Associate Professor in 2009. At UBC Larry is an Associate of the School of Population & Public Health and the Associate Director of the Collaboration for Outcomes Research and Evaluation in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences. He is also a Scientist at the Centre for Health Evaluation & Outcomes Sciences at Providence Health in Vancouver. He is a Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Scholar and a Canadian Institutes of Health Research New Investigator.

Christopher Mole, Assistant Professor
Department of Philosophy

Christopher Mole completed a BA (Hons) in Philosophy and Psychology at the University of Oxford and his PhD (2005) in Philosophy at Princeton University. Following a post-doctoral fellowship at Washington University at St. Louis and a Lectureship at University College Dublin, Christopher was appointed to his current position in 2009. He is affiliated with UBC’s Program in Cognitive Systems. His research is mainly concerned with philosophical questions that arise from the human sciences. Some of these questions are methodological—such as the question of what limits there might be on the use of fMRI techniques as a tool in cognitive psychology. Others are more metaphysical—such as the question of whether attention is the sort of thing that can be explained by identifying the brain processes that constitute it. Christopher also has a research interest in the aesthetics of literature.

Marit Rehavi, Assistant Professor
Department of Economics

Marit Rehavi's research centres on principal–agent issues when contracting with experts. Her current work explores these issues in decision making in childbirth, politics, and law. In previous work, she has quantified the effects of women's movement into state legislatures on state budgets and used these effects to test political economy theories of policy choice. Prior to arriving at the University of British Columbia in 2010, Marit was a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholar in Health Policy Research at the University of Michigan. After completing a BA in Economics at Harvard University and MSc in Economics and Economic History at the London School of Economics and Political Science, Marit received her PhD (2008) in Economics from the University of California, Berkeley. She had the distinction of serving for a year as a research assistant to the White House Council of Economic Advisors in Washington, DC.
In the Distinguished Visiting Professor program, from time to time a senior, renowned 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 research agenda, participate in Institute programs and events, give talks, and organize specific activities intended to contribute to the intellectual life of the Institute and its affiliated scholars.
**2011 Distinguished Visiting Professors**

**Stanislas Dehaene**
Professor and Chair of Experimental Cognitive Psychology, Collège de France, Paris, and Director, INSERM-CEA Cognitive Neuroimaging Unit, Orsay, France

The Institute was pleased to have Professor Dehaene with us in April. He is one of Europe’s leading cognitive neuroscientists, the youngest researcher to be appointed Professor at the Collège, and a scholar who excels in crossing the boundaries between disciplines. His work uses advanced techniques in functional magnetic resonance imaging, electro-encephalography, interacranial electrodes, and psychological manipulations to study how culture and biology interact in the human brain. He is internationally known for his work on the neural bases of reading abilities, mathematical language, bilingualism, and consciousness. In his acclaimed recent book, *Reading in the Brain: The Science and Evolution of a Cultural Invention*, Professor Dehaene examines the brain circuitry at work behind reading and describes groundbreaking research on how the brain processes languages. He proposes a powerful “neuronal recycling” hypothesis, which postulates that cultural inventions invade evolutionarily older brain circuits, and while doing so inherit many of their structural constraints.

In addition to Professor Dehaene’s three major books and five edited or co-edited works, he has created two television movies, over 200 scientific articles in such leading journals as *Science, Nature*, and *Nature Neuroscience*, and thirty-five book chapters. His work has received several international prizes, including the million-dollar James S. McDonnell Centennial Fellowship, the Louis D. Foundation Prize (750,000 euros), the Pius XI Medal of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences (Vatican), the 2007 Grand Prix RTL-Lire (Best Science Book) for *Reading in the Brain*, and the Dr. A. H. Heineken Prize for Cognitive Science (2008). In 2010, he was elected a Member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences.

Professor Dehaene joined us at the Institute April 6 to 13, 2011. During his stay, he gave three Distinguished Visiting Professor talks: “Reading in the Brain,” at the Chan Centre Royal Bank Cinema; “Electrophysiological Signatures of Conscious Access,” at the Brain Research Centre, and “The Depth and Limits of Subliminal Processing,” presented at the Wall Faculty Associates dinner. The outgoing Consul General of France in Vancouver, Alexandre Garcia, held a reception for Professor Dehaene and arranged a recorded video interview with him.

**Philippe Sansonetti**
Professor and Chair, Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, Collège de France, and Professor, Pasteur Institute, Paris

Philippe Sansonetti is one of Europe’s leading microbiologists. His research mainly focuses on the understanding of several aspects of the pathogenesis of Shigella, a Gram-negative bacterium causing severe diarrhea. This work spans a large set of disciplines in biology and medicine and ranges from molecular genetics, to cell biology, immunology, and the development of vaccines against dysentery. He also actively contributes to the development of vaccine candidates against the major shigella causing dysentery in the developing world.

Author of over 400 publications in peer-reviewed journals, Professor Sansonetti is considered to be one of the founders of cellular microbiology, and he has launched an eponymous scientific publication dedicated to this field. His achievements in science have been recognised by numerous awards, including the Louis Jeantet Prize for...
Professor Sansonetti visited the Institute June 14 to 24, 2011 and during his stay gave three Distinguished Visiting Professor talks: a PWIAS-Michael Smith Lab Research Colloquium, “Blowing Hot and Cold on the Gut Epithelium: A Successful Strategy for Shigella”; a PWIAS-Vancouver General Hospital Research Colloquium, “Developing Vaccines against Pediatric Bacterial Diarrhea: Why is the Path So Difficult?”; and a PWIAS Faculty Associates dinner talk, “The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: A Fair Scenario for Our Microbial Environment?”. The Consul General of France in Vancouver, Alexandre Garcia, hosted a reception in his honour and arranged a recorded video interview with him about his research and his visit to the Institute. With Brett Finlay, Peter Wall Distinguished Professor, Professor Sansonetti co-organized and co-hosted in May 2011 a highly successful Peter Wall Colloquium Abroad on the topic “Commensal Microbiota: From Homeostasis to Disease.”

Our partner Institute, the Collège de France, has uploaded the videos and audio podcasts of Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor talks and video interviews by the French Consulate in Vancouver by Collège faculty to its website. This action has expanded our outreach to new audiences internationally (the Collège website receives over one million visits per year) and has helped to strengthen our partnership through shared program development and promotion.

**Returning 2009 Distinguished Visiting Professor**

**Alain Berthoz**  
Honorary Professor of Physiology and Founding Director of the Laboratory of Physiology of Perception and Action, Collège de France

An internationally-renowned neurophysiologist and expert on perception and movement, Alain Berthoz explores—through brain imaging, recording movements, and the use of virtual reality—the neural basis of four major types of cognitive motor functions: eye movements, generation of locomotion trajectories, strategies for cognitive spatial memory, and perception and expression of emotions and actions of others. Among other contributions, he has been the main force behind the formal partnership between the Peter Wall Institute and the Collège de France. Co-sponsoring his return visit to the Institute for the month of September was the Brain Research Centre, a unique partnership between Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute and the Faculty of Medicine at UBC. Professor Berthoz’s time at UBC was filled with public talks, specialized seminars, conversations with researchers, and a one-day workshop on Wu Wei (or “effortless action”) at the Institute, co-organized with Ted Slingerland, Asian Studies. He was a vigorous and welcome participant in meetings of the Institute’s Distinguished Scholars in Residence, including their two-day research retreat on Bowen Island.

The newly-arrived Consul General of France in Vancouver, Evelyne Decorps, was a guest of the Director at a special Associates Dinner in honour of Professor Berthoz. Mme Decorps honoured him later with a small dinner and arranged a recorded video interview.
THE WALL EXCHANGE

This downtown free public lecture series is a community program created by the Institute to provide a public forum for the discussion of key issues which impact us all. Events are held in the early evening in the spring and fall of each year. The Wall Exchange brings to Vancouver well-known public figures who have contributed new knowledge to the arts, sciences, and humanities. It is expected that Wall Exchange lecturers will also engage with the UBC community in some type of forum during their visit.

The lectures are held in the Vogue Theatre, Vancouver. The Vogue, built in 1941 to showcase live performances and movies, seats 1,100 and is a prominent landmark of the city’s theatre district. The Georgia Straight arts magazine is a co-sponsor of the series.


2011 Fall  Derek Gregory, “The Everywhere War”
May 3, 2011

J. Craig Venter, President, J. Craig Venter Institute,
leading genomic scientist and sequencer of the human genome

“The Construction of the First Synthetic Cell and the Global
Ocean Sampling Expedition”

Famous for his visionary contributions in sequencing the first draft of the
human genome and the first complete human genome sequence, Dr.
Venter is regarded as one of the leading scientists of the 21st century
for his invaluable contributions in genomic research. From positively
impacting human health and improvements in the treatment of disease
to enabling a better understanding of the environment and potentially
creating new biological sources of energy, Dr. Venter illuminates how the
field of genomics has the power to transform the world around us.

The lecture, delivered to a packed audience, described the work
of the J. Craig Venter Institute in conducting research in synthetic
biology to create synthetic biological organisms and, since 2003, to
document genetic diversity in the oceans and largest inland seas of the
world. Dr. Venter predicted that over the next few decades, synthetic
genomics would become the standard for making anything, although
he was careful to raise the ethical safeguards necessitated by this
area of research. His Global Oceans Sampling Expedition is intended
to unlock the secrets of the oceans by sampling, sequencing, and
analyzing the DNA of the microorganisms living in marine waters – an
expedition of microbial discovery. He also touched on the impact of the
human genome on health outcomes, particularly his team’s new and
extraordinarily promising research on bacteria in the human body. The
firm he co-founded, Synthetic Genomics, is dedicated to using modified
microorganisms to produce clean fuels and biochemicals, including the
new project to research and develop next-generation biofuels.

Dr. Venter is a member of the National Academy of Sciences. He is the
recipient of numerous honorary degrees, public honours, and scientific
awards, including the 2008 National Medal of Science by U.S. President
Barack Obama. He is included in the 2007 and 2008 “Time 100” lists
of the most influential people in the world, and as fourteenth in the New
Statesman 2010 list of “The World’s 50 Most Influential Figures.”

Dr. Venter spent the day of his talk at the Institute, attending a small
lunch in his honour, which was followed by a larger, informal forum with
UBC researchers and representatives of Genome BC, a co-sponsor of
his visit.

Dr. Venter’s talk was broadcast nationally on CBC Radio 1 “IDEAS” on
September 21, 2011. The full event audio podcast, courtesy of CBC
Radio, is available on the Institute’s website. Feature stories on Dr.
Venter and the Wall Exchange lecture appeared in the Georgia Straight
on April 27 and May 4, 2011.
“The Everywhere War”

This renowned political geographer delivered a lecture to a sell-out audience on his new area of research, “The Everywhere War” – wars conducted in the shadows of 9/11 that have much to tell us about the future of violence, security, and everyday life. Dr. Gregory observed that the standard descriptions of these wars focus on time, thereby overlooking the importance of the slippery spaces through which war now takes place. One of the characteristics of late modern war is the “event-ful” quality of violence that can, in principle, occur anywhere: a commuter train in Madrid, a house in Gaza City, a poppy field in Helmand, or a street in Ciudad Juárez. Dr. Gregory showed how “the everywhere war” has changed the very nature of war in the early twenty-first century. The killing space still has a terrible intimacy, but we now live in a world where death can be delivered across vast distances, while successive U.S. administrations openly speculate about how to conduct “war in countries we are not at war with.” All this makes it hard to see where war ends and peace begins.

Dr. Gregory explored three cases in which the Global North reaches deep into the global borderlands: the use of drones in Afghanistan and Pakistan by NATO forces and the CIA; the militarization of the USA-Mexico border and the prosecution of “narco-war”; and the emergence of cyber-warfare.

Derek Gregory is one of the most respected and influential scholars in the field of geography today. Recipient of several honorary degrees and author of over a dozen books, his work has focused on processes of historical and geographical change – on periods of crisis and transformation – and explored a range of critical theories that show how place, space, and landscape have been involved in the operation and outcome of social processes. Terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the U.S. Pentagon, September 11, 2001, brought the contemporary significance of his work to the fore, causing him to shift his research to the present and develop a commitment to exposing his work to public dialogue.

A reception at the Vogue Theatre followed Dr. Gregory’s talk. The talk will be broadcast nationally on CBC Radio 1 “IDEAS” on January 20, 2012. The full event audio podcast, courtesy of CBC Radio, is available on the Institute’s website. A feature story leading up the lecture and a special commentary following the lecture appeared in the Georgia Straight on September 22 and October 4, 2011, respectively.
The Wall Exchange
Reception after the talk
2011 AT A GLANCE

Faculty Associates Forum

Benjamin Perrin, Human Trafficking: Research, Advocacy, and Action to Address Emerging Social Challenges

Holger Hoos, À la recherche de l’intelligence artificielle: Machines That Think, Create and Play

Distinguished Scholars Alumni Dinner

Andrew Macnab, Creative Spaces for the Mind

Gu Xiong, Waterscapes

Faculty Associates Forum

Frank Ko, Nanofibre Technology: New Frontier in Advanced Materials Research

Reflections of Senior Academics


Ian Vertinsky, Making Sense of Crises and the Crisis of Crisis Management ‘Community and the State’ in Bolivia and the Latin American Left Turns

Janis Sarra, Dance Atelier

Janis Sarra, Public Forum

Stanislas Dehaene, The Depth and Limits of Subliminal Processing

Stanislas Dehaene, Reading in the Brain

Ian Vertinsky, Workshop: Trans-boundary Crisis Management

Ed Kellar, A Perspective on the Oculomotor System: Neurophysiology and Computational Models

Early Career Scholars Lab Crawl

Richard Kurth, Singing Meaning into Lost Childhood in Arcade Fire’s “The Suburbs”

Kelvin Jones, Single Motor Neuron Models: Oversimple, Complex, and Reduced. What to Choose?

Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor

Stanislas Dehaene, Electrophysiological Signatures of Conscious Access

Public Lecture

Stanislas Dehaene, Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor

External Review of the Peter Wall Institute

Ed Kellar, Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor Public Lecture

Fabio Rossi, The Hype about IPS: Ethical and Practical Implications of Recent Advances in Stem Cell Research

In from the Margins: New Foundations for Personhood and Legal Capacity in the 21st Century

Distinguished Scholars Research Retreat

J. Craig Venter, The Construction of the First Synthetic Cell and the Global Ocean Sampling Expedition

Brett Finlay and Philippe Sansonetti, The Commensal Microbiota: From Homeostasis to Disease

Wall Colloquium Abroad

John Steeves, Traversing Clinical Trials

Collège de France, Paris

Faculty Associates Forum

Exploratory Workshop

External Review

Faculty Associates Forum

Distinguished Scholars Research Retreat

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Wall Colloquium Abroad

Collège de France, Paris

Faculty Associates Forum

Exploratory Workshop

External Review

Faculty Associates Forum
Peter Wall Institute Director Search
Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor
Public Lecture
Peter Wall Institute Board of Trustees
Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor
Public Lecture
Faculty Associates Forum
Distinguished Scholar Research Event
French Consulate in Vancouver Reception
Honorary Composer in Residence Special Event
Wall Colloquium Abroad, TUM-IAS, Munich
Wall Colloquium Abroad, TUM-IAS, Munich
Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor (returning) Public Lecture
Distinguished Scholars Research Retreat
Faculty Associates Forum
The Wall Exchange, Fall
Distinguished Scholar Research Event
Early Career Scholars Research Retreat
Peter Wall Distinguished Professor Reception
Distinguished Scholar Research Event
Faculty Associates Forum
Wall Colloquium Abroad, TUM-IAS, Munich
Theme Development Workshop
Wall Colloquium Abroad, STIAS, South Africa
Faculty Associates Forum
Distinguished Scholar Research Event
Distinguished Scholar Research Event
Holiday Reception
Peter Wall Institute Board of Trustees
Peter Wall Institute Director Farewell Reception

Vision talks by three UBC candidates

Philippe Sansonetti, Blowing Hot and Cold on the Gut Epithelium: A Successful Strategy for Shigella
Meeting of the Institute Board of Trustees and Annual Trustees Appreciation Luncheon

Philippe Sansonetti, Developing Vaccines Against Pediatric Bacterial Diarrhea: Why is the Path So Difficult?

Philippe Sansonetti, The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: A Fair Scenario for our Microbial Environment?

Mark Warren, Workshop

Philippe Sansonetti, Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor

Alfredo Santa Ana, National Arts Centre Concert

Dinesh Pai, Multimodal and Sensorimotor Bionics

Moshe Shapiro, International Workshop on Coherence and Decoherence at Ultra-cold Temperatures.

Alain Berthoz, Brain Mechanisms for Empathy and the Cognitive Foundations of Tolerance

Distinguished Scholars Research Retreat

Richard Unger, Energy Consumption and the Environmental Impact of the Black Death

Derek Gregory, The Everywhere War

Maxwell Cameron, Colloquium Series talk: Aristotle’s Ethics and Obedience to Authority

Early Career Scholars Research Retreat

Gala Reception on the appointment of Derek Gregory

Maxwell Cameron, Colloquium Series talk: Breaking the Rules/Making the State: Machiavelli and Practical Wisdom

Guy Dumont, Comfortably Numb: Cruise Control for Anesthesia

Richard Unger, Continuity in Energy Regimes

Personalized Medicine Initiative

Andrew Macnab, “Many Voices One Song”: Health-Promoting Schools: Evidence, Strategies, Challenges and Prospects

Tim Stainton, In from the Margins: New Foundations for Personhood and Legal Capacity in the 21st Century

Maxwell Cameron, Colloquium Series talk: The Search for the Beginnings of Wisdom: Agency, Intentionality, and Responsibility in Childhood

Maxwell Cameron, Public Conversations: Why Don’t (More) Good People Enter Politics?

Holiday Reception

Meeting of the Institute Board of Trustees

Farewell Reception for Dianne Newell
Thematic Programs establish an overall research theme in which scholars with related expertise are gathered together for interdisciplinary collaboration.
The Major Thematic Grant provides funding of up to $500,000 over a three- to five-year period to interdisciplinary teams of UBC and external scholars to research a new area. It is expected that UBC will become a centre for research on the topic.

**2011–2014**  
HIV-Exposed but Uninfected (HEU) Infants: Exploration of the Causes of Enhanced Morbidity and Mortality  
David P. Speert, Pediatrics

**2009–2011**  
Coherent Dynamics of Ultra-Cold Molecular Systems  
Moshe Shapiro, Chemistry and Physics & Astronomy

**2008–2011**  
Sensorimotor Computation  
Dinesh Pai, Computer Science

**2000–2003**  
Acoustic Ecology  
Kathleen Pichora-Fuller, Institute for Hearing Accessibility Research

**1999–2002**  
An Interdisciplinary Inquiry into Narratives of Disease, Disability, and Trauma  
Valerie Raoul, Centre for Research in Women’s Studies & Gender Relations

**1999–2002**  
Pathogenomics  
Ann Rose, Medical Genetics

**1997–2000**  
Understanding Electron Motion in Matter  
Christopher Brion, Chemistry

**1996–2000**  
Crisis Points  
Priscilla Greenwood, Mathematics
HIV-Exposed but Uninfected (HEU) Infants: Exploration of the Causes of Enhanced Morbidity and Mortality
A Peter Wall Major Thematic Grant, 2011 – 2014

Principal Investigator: David P. Speert, Pediatrics
Co-Investigators: Tobias Kollmann, Pediatrics, John Forbes, Pediatrics, Ronald Rensink, Psychology and Computer Science, David Scheifele, Pediatrics, Hélène Coté, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, Julie Bettinger, Pediatrics and School of Population & Public Health, Julio Montaner, Division of HIV/AIDS, Medicine, Deborah Money, Obstetrics & Gynecology.

External Team Members/Collaborators: Mark Cotton, Paediatric Infectious Diseases Unit and Children's Infectious Clinical Research Unit, Stellenbosch University, Tygerberg Hospital, Cape Town, South Africa; John Dill, School of Interactive Arts & Technology, Simon Fraser University; Monika Esser, NHLS Immunology Unit, Tygerberg Hospital; Brian Fisher, Interactive Arts & Technology and Cognitive Science, SFU; Tessa Goetghebuer, Pediatrics, Free University of Brussels, Hôpital St Pierre, Brussels, Belgium; A.C. Hesseling, Paediatrics & Child Health and Paediatric TB Research Program, Desmond Tutu TB Centre, Stellenbosch University; Jean Humphrey, International Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland; Wolfgang Preiser, Division of Medical Virology, Pathology, Stellenbosch University, Matieland, South Africa; Amy Slogrove, Tygerberg Children's Hospital, Tygerberg, South Africa; Mark Tomlinson, Psychology, Stellenbosch University, Matieland; Colleen Wright, Paediatrics & Child Health, Tygerberg Hospital.

This newly funded Major Thematic Grant will support research over three years (2011-2014) to identify the immunological explanation for the impaired defense against infection of HEU babies. Highly effective strategies have been introduced to prevent spread of HIV infection from mothers to their babies; of the 1.5 million babies born annually to HIV-infected mothers, the vast majority are not themselves infected. Nonetheless these HIV-Exposed but Uninfected (HEU) babies are at greatly increased risk of death during the first year of life and appear to suffer from a weakness in their immune defenses. Several theories have been offered to explain the very poor health of these HEU babies, but none has been proven to be the sole one responsible; as a result there is no effective intervention to prevent the many deaths that occur annually. South Africa has the highest burden of HIV/AIDS in the world, and a very large proportion of HEU babies.
To achieve the ambitious goal of identifying the immunological explanation for the impaired defense against infection of HEU babies, the team of researchers from UBC and the Health Sciences Faculty and Tygerberg Hospital, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa will study 100 HIV-exposed babies and 100 babies born to women who are not HIV-infected, all born at Tygerberg Hospital. Blood samples will be obtained, frozen, and evaluated at the CFI Centre for Understanding and Preventing Infections in Children, BC Children’s Hospital, Vancouver. The team will study the innate (present from birth) and the adaptive (learned) immune system of all babies at several time points from two weeks of age to twenty-four months. These studies will be guided by the results of a small pilot study conducted by several members of the Wall MTG team in 2009 and 2010 in which 60 babies were investigated. With information gained from these studies, and future major studies arising from them, it should be possible to suggest interventions to protect these very vulnerable children during the first year of life, when most of the fatal infections occur.

This current project not only builds on a two-year pilot project but on the momentum generated by a highly successful Wall Exploratory Workshop, “Exploring Development of a Birth Cohort to Understand and Prevent Disease of Children in the Developing World,” held in 2007 at the Peter Wall Institute, which helped to identify and refine the scope and themes of this project. The Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study, associated with this project, is a formal partner of the Peter Wall Institute and in 2009 co-sponsored and hosted the first-ever Wall Colloquium Abroad, interdisciplinary workshop, on the topic of HEU infants.
Coherent Dynamics of Ultra-Cold Molecular Systems
A Peter Wall Major Thematic Grant, 2009 – 2011

Principal Investigator: Moshe Shapiro, Chemistry and Physics & Astronomy. Co-investigators: John Hepburn, Professor and VP Research & International; Roman Krems, Associate Professor, Chemistry; Kirk Madison, Assistant Professor, Physics; Valery Milner, Assistant Professor, Physics. For a list of external collaborators and additional information about the project see www.pwias.ubc.ca

This Major Thematic Grant is funding research to bridge the gap between chemistry and physics, between experimentalists and theorists, and combining the “ultra-fast” with the “ultra-cold.” The directions of this project constitute a completely new paradigm in the fields of chemical dynamics and atomic, molecular, and optical physics.

Key research accomplishments in 2011 include:

- The work on quantum simulation of the Holstein Hamiltonian attracted the attention of researchers in several different fields: Roman Krems was invited to present the work at two workshops in Germany outside the UBC team’s field of research – on optimal control and on quantum networks.

- Kirk Madison’s group achieved a Bose-Einstein Condensate (BEC) of lithium Feshbach dimers. It is the first molecular BEC achieved in Canada and represents a major achievement of one of the goals of the Major Thematic Grant project. By evaporating a two-component Fermi gas of 6Li atoms (in the two lowest spin states) from an optical dipole trap with a uniform magnetic applied and held at a value of just below the centre of a wide Feshbach resonance at 860 G, the atoms were made to form bosonic molecules by a three-body recombination. Once the temperature was well below the binding energy of molecules, the ensemble became predominantly molecules. Continued evaporation to temperatures below 1uK resulted in a BEC of molecules.

- A patent, “Method and device for accurately measuring the incident flux or number density of ambient particles in a high or ultra-high vacuum environment,” was filed in the U.S. and Canada by the Madison group in May 2011. This followed the award of an NSERC Ideas to Innovation market study grant (through the BC Institute of Technology), and the commercial application of this sensor was explored by a professional consultant. The U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) expressed an interest in acquiring and testing this new technology with the goal of establishing it as a new international pressure standard.

- Valery Milner’s group initiated a new type of ro-vibrational spectroscopy, which relies on coherent control of ro-vibrational wave packets in a gas of molecules exciting both along their vibrational and rotational degrees of freedom.

Project events during 2011 included a highly successful major international workshop, “Coherence and Decoherence at Ultra-cold Temperatures,” featuring 26 world-leading researchers, at the Technical University of Munich–Institute for Advanced Study from September 6 to 9, funded under the Peter Wall Colloquia Abroad program and co-funded by TUM–IAS. At UBC, the project organized six seminars with speakers from Canada, the USA, and Spain.
The project’s co-investigators published a total of 24 journal papers and a second edition of the M. Shapiro and P. Brumer book *Quantum Control of Molecular Processes* (Wiley–Springer, 2011) and collectively gave 23 invited talks internationally. They established several new research collaborations both within UBC (VGH Department of Infectious Diseases and the UBC Department of Physics) and continue several international collaborations.

Although the MTG grant officially ends in December 2011, the work of the project will continue and explore several new fronts. For example, the Shapiro team plans to develop a method to use lasers to move and navigate the motion of molecules on surfaces. If successful, this method could be used as an efficient and powerful way of directing drugs toward given targets with unprecedented precision. And the Krems team will explore the possibility to study exciton physics with ultracold molecules, perhaps allowing researchers to realize a Frenkel biexciton, a quasi-particle that has never been observed.

**Research plans for 2012**

Shapiro’s group will continue research on the following topics:

**Generation and control of entanglement:** Following the initial breakthrough reported here, they intend to build an entirely new platform for quantum computing based on the dissociation of ultra-cold molecular ions which form ions/neutral fragments, serving as the (0,1) qubits elements. **Imaging of multidimensional wave packets and potential energy surfaces:** They will extend their approach for the extraction of potential energy surfaces from frequency-resolved data to the time-resolved domain. In particular, it is intended to use such data in imaging unknown time-evolving multidimensional vibrational wave packets. **Chiral separation of ultra-cold molecules:** They will continue with planning experiments aimed at using their recently published scheme for separating mixtures of ultra-cold molecules of opposite chiralities into their chirally pure components; they will also develop an entirely new scheme which promises to be the simplest such scheme yet, using new optical selection rules recently derived for the optical excitation of dimers of chiral species.

Madison’s group plans to begin the experimental study of *Feshbach resonances and photo-association in ultra-cold mixtures of Rb and Li atoms*. Milner’s group is also about to start the first experiments on producing the samples of rotationally excited oxygen molecules in a supersonic molecular beam. The first stage of this experiment will focus on the ability to enhance molecular excitation by means of ultrafast pulse shaping.

Krems’ group will continue research in two main directions: They will explore the formation and dynamics of quantum quasi-particles (excitons, polaritons, and polarons) in ordered ensembles of ultra-cold molecules on an optical lattice. This study may lead to the discovery of new quantum states of quantum quasi-particles, as the interactions between ultra-cold molecules on an optical lattice can be tuned in a way that cannot be achieved with conventional molecular crystals. They will continue to explore reaction dynamics of ultra-cold molecules in order to guide experimental searches of new ways of taking advantage of the extremely long wavelengths experienced by ultra-cold colliding molecules.
Sensorimotor Computation
A Peter Wall Major Thematic Grant, 2008 – 2011

Principal Investigator: Dinesh K. Pai, Computer Science
Co-investigators: Antony Hodgson, Mechanical Engineering;
J. Timothy Inglis, Human Kinetics; Alan K. Mackworth, Computer Science;
Martin J. McKeown, Neurology; John D. Steeves, International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (ICORD) and Zoology.
For a list of external collaborators and additional information about the project see www.pwias.ubc.ca

The scientific goal of this project is to model the complex computations, sensing, and motor actions that are required to control our eyes and head when we look at or reach out for an object of interest. Specifically, the aim is to construct computational models of how the eyes and head are moved to direct gaze to objects of interest in the environment, and how the hand manipulates objects. These models are being firmly based on neurobiological measurements of how humans actually perform these tasks. The results will have important implications for applied clinical research and therefore for human health in the long term.

The project led by Dinesh Pai had another active year in advancing the frontiers of sensorimotor computation, both in terms of new research results and interdisciplinary interactions. Two of the project’s external collaborators visited the team for extended periods of one month each: Dr. Andrea d’Avella, from the St. Lucia Foundation, Rome, and Dr. Mitsunori Tada, from the Digital Human Research Center, Tokyo. Research collaborations among the UBC co-investigators and other colleagues included the diagnosis of neuromuscular impairment using biomechanical models (Pai and John Steeves); the development of a 3D robotic eye (Antony Hodgson and Pai); high density electro-oculography (Martin McKeown and Pai, with Uri Ascher in Computer Science, Jean-Sébastien Blouin, Human Kinetics, and Miriam Spering, Ophthalmology). Pai’s group also developed a novel approach to computer simulation of sensorimotor systems, combining traditional Lagrangian approaches with Eulerian methods.

Dinesh Pai co-organized in May a large international, interdisciplinary four-day workshop on “Multimodal and Sensorimotor Bionics” with the Technical University of Munich–Institute for Advanced Study, which also hosted and co-funded the event. In addition to this major event, the Sensorimotor Computation Seminar Series at UBC featured four external speakers.
The Human Sensorimotor Systems group within the University’s Institute for Computing, Information and Cognitive Systems (ICICS) purchased and installed several new pieces of research equipment under its Canadian Foundation for Innovation grant. The equipment includes an advanced robotic arm and hand (Barrett), eye tracker (Chronos), high-density EMG/EEG amplifiers (ANT), and several haptic devices (Sensable). As a consequence, the hiring of a research support engineer is underway. The ICICS itself is a spin-off of the Wall Major Thematic Grant project.

Looking forward to 2012, some of the research activities, especially those using the new CFI equipment and the collaboration with Dr. Tada on modeling the hand, are now entering a very productive phase. These activities and the continuation of the Sensorimotor Seminar Series at UBC in 2012 will be extremely beneficial for fostering the sensorimotor community within UBC and for advertising the importance of research supported by the Peter Wall Institute to the global research community.
The Exploratory Workshop program offers competitive funding for meetings of researchers from various disciplines at UBC with distinguished external experts. Outcomes may include a special issue of a journal, an edited volume, or an application for a large grant such as a Wall Institute Major Thematic Grant. Five workshops have been approved for 2012.

A total of 80 Exploratory Workshop Grants have been awarded since 1997.
In from the Margins: New Foundations for Personhood and Legal Capacity in the 21st Century

Principal Investigator: Tim Stainton, School of Social Work
April 29–May 1, 2011

Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities that entered into force on May 3, 2008 seems simple enough in its affirmation that all people with disabilities are to be considered persons before the law and enjoy full legal status. Looking more closely, however, reveals that Article 12 in fact challenges the long-standing presumption that legal recognition and, more fundamentally, moral personhood requires a degree or level of capacity which many people with disabilities have been presumed to lack. It is this challenge that the workshop sought to explore.

Forty-two leading national and international scholars from law, disability studies, gerontology, social work, ethics, medicine, psychology, political science, and philosophy together with key civil society representatives from eleven countries participated in an engaging and productive dialogue on the key challenges of implementing Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Organized by the School of Social Work and the Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship at UBC, the workshop focused on the conceptual foundations of moral and legal personhood; the definition and criteria for legal capacity found in ethics and law; the implications for law and policy for adult protection; substitute and supported decision-making, health and social care consent, and contract and criminal law; and emerging social and legal forms of support and reasonable accommodation that enable people with significant cognitive or psychosocial disabilities to maximize their legal capacity.

Included was a public event on April 29 at which Dr. Gerard Quinn, Centre for Disability Law & Policy, National University of Ireland, Galway delivered the keynote address, “Rethinking Personhood: New Directions in Legal Capacity Law and Policy.” There followed a panel on first-person consumer perspectives that attracted several dozen members from the wider community.

This workshop led to a follow-up opportunity for the Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship to partner with Inclusion International and the Open Society Institute to host an additional dialogue to consider implications of Article 12 of the Convention. This dialogue focuses on the alternatives to guardianship for people with psychosocial disabilities and those with cognitive disabilities arising from aging-related conditions, brain injury, and other neurological conditions.
Theme Development Workshops facilitate brief, informal meetings of UBC researchers at the Institute to explore the research possibilities of a topic of interdisciplinary interest. These meetings often lead to significant new collaborations, funding for workshop and conferences, and publications. The Institute provides refreshments, meeting space, and publicity for the event.

Colloquia are public talks at the Institute by distinguished visiting researchers to UBC that will appeal to an interdisciplinary audience. Most of these talks are available as audio podcasts on the Institute’s website.

Requests for Theme Development Workshop and Colloquia support may be made to the Director at any time; there is no deadline.
Reflections of Senior Academics
A lunch-time workshop led by Judith Hall, Professor Emerita of Pediatrics and Medical Genetics, UBC, and Children’s & Women’s Health Centre of BC
March 9, 2011
Emeritus and retired Faculty Associates of the Institute discussed potential ways to facilitate ongoing interdisciplinary scholarship and research networks.

Jerrilynn Dodds, Architectural Historian and Dean of the College, Sarah Lawrence College, New York and UBC Cecil H. and Ida Green Visiting Professor
March 17, 2011
In the Balkan wars of the early 1990s, the destruction of architecture became a tool of successive campaigns of cultural genocide, meant to help erase one or more of the multiple groups which inhabited contested territories. This talk explored the architecture of Orthodox, Catholic, and Muslim populations of Bosnia, both in historical encounters and in the devastating wars of the 1990s.

Jerrilynn Dodds’s work centres on issues of artistic interchange and how groups form their identities through art and architecture. As well as Dean at Sarah Lawrence, she is a lecturer and consultant at The Metropolitan Museum of Art and is a renowned author and prize-winning documentary filmmaker. She has previously been Distinguished Professor of Architectural History and Theory at the City University of New York. She has also curated numerous museum exhibitions.

This event was funded by the Peter Wall Institute and co-sponsored by Green College under the Cecil H. and Ida Green Visiting Professorship Program. It was organized by Sima Godfrey, Department of French, Hispanic & Italian Studies.

Community and the State in Bolivia and the Latin American Left Turns
A public round-table discussion with Bruno Bosteels, Oscar Cabezas, Max Cameron, Alec Dawson, and Gaston Gordillo, organized by Jon Beasley-Murray, French, Hispanic, & Italian Studies
March 30, 2011
Bruno Bosteels, whose visit to UBC provided the occasion for this meeting, is Professor of Romance Studies at Cornell University and one of the leading critics and theorists of Latin American politics and culture.
This one-day event was co-sponsored by the Departments of French, Hispanic & Italian Studies and Political Science, the President’s Advisory Committee on Lectures, and Simon Fraser University’s Latin American Studies program.

**Personalized Medicine Initiative**
A one-day workshop organized by Pieter Cullis, Director, NanoMedicines Research Group and Professor, UBC Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Speakers at this large gathering included Gavin Stuart, Dean, Faculty of Medicine; Lynda Cranston, CEO, Provincial Health Service Authority; and Tony Phillips, CIHR. October 31, 2011

Personalized medicine is an interdisciplinary medical model emphasizing in general the customization of health care, with all decisions and practices being tailored to individual patients in whatever manner possible. The Personalized Medicine Initiative (PMI) at UBC has received the necessary support from the broader scientific, medical, and academic community to begin putting its objectives into action: to establish the business plan, establish policies and practices in personalized medicine informed by engaging the public through deliberative democracy, initiate a “search” project aimed at defining front-line projects for PMI, and establish tools and capacity to link genetic and genomic data to health records in a usable and actionable format. The PMI plans to host a series of seminars with international leaders in personalized medicine in 2012.

**Small Population Research Methods**
Researchers, clinicians, and trainees interested in, and working with, rare diseases in children gathered for a half-day workshop organized by Hal Siden, Clinical Associate Professor, Pediatrics, UBC and Medical Director, Canuck Place Children’s Hospice. December 15, 2011

Participants addressed the specific problem of system management in rare diseases, particularly in the case of patients who are unable to report due to cognitive impairments. The larger issue explored was the need to develop novel methods to study symptoms and therapies in rare diseases (small populations). Participants reviewed current studies, discussed the results of pilot data, and developed a valuable roadmap to initiating a research program spanning symptom assessment, pharmacogenetics, epidemiology, and methodology research.
A biweekly gathering of Institute Associates and guests over lunches and dinners with talks by Associates. It is the key forum at UBC for interdisciplinary research contact. Most of the talks since January 2008 are available as audio podcasts on the Institute’s website.
January 12, 2011

**Benjamin Perrin**, Faculty of Law

“Human Trafficking: Research, Advocacy, and Action to Address Emerging Social Challenges”

Dr. Perrin, author of *Invisible Chains: Canada’s Underground World of Human Trafficking*, shared the compelling story behind researching underground criminal activity in Canada and the multi-faceted public engagement, media, and advocacy campaign based on this research for the three-year project. The role of public universities in addressing emerging social challenges was an important theme explored through the case study under discussion.

January 26, 2011

**Holger Hoos**, Computer Science and 2010 Wall Distinguished Scholar in Residence

“À la recherche de l’intelligence artificielle: Machines That Think, Create and Play.”

The creation of artificial intelligence (AI) – of machines that think, feel, and communicate like humans do – is one of the great dreams of humankind and a quest that has been hotly pursued over the last fifty years. Popularized by science fiction novels, films, and a host of colourful characters, visions of AI have become part of mainstream culture. But is AI really possible? And if so, how will it shape our future? While Dr. Hoos could not provide conclusive or exhaustive answers to these questions, in his talk he attempted to shed some light on what is possible today and speculate on where this may lead us in the future.

February 9, 2011

**Andrew Macnab**, Pediatrics

“Creative Spaces for the Mind”

“We must go beyond textbooks, and travel and explore and tell the world of the glories of our journey” – John Hope Franklin

The title of this talk allows reflection on several aspects of Dr. Macnab’s time as a Fellow at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS). First was the time spent with an outstanding group of international Fellows, which afforded unique opportunities for dialogue and collaborative research. One such collaboration evaluated a Canadian model for school-based health promotion employed in rural communities in sub-Saharan Africa, and the impact this program is having on child health and social behaviours. In another initiative, Dr. Macnab explored how to help new parents acquire knowledge and skills that promote early childhood development. In Canada, this exploration now involves UBC researchers and the application of new technologies to make evidence from current research more accessible.

February 23, 2011

**Gu Xiong**, Art History, Visual Art & Theory

“Waterscapes”

“Waterscapes” explores the potential of using seas, ocean basins, and river networks as frameworks of historical analysis, highlighting the central role of trans-oceanic relationships and exchanges in the shaping of world regions and identities. The installation deals with transnational migration along major waterways, globalization, and cultural hybridity, and explores the contemporary and historical meaning of waterscapes in the context of large-scale migrations within and to China and Canada. Gu Xiong’s art installation “Waterscapes” was on display locally September 17 – November 14, 2010.

March 9, 2011

**Frank Ko**, Materials Engineering and AMPEL

“Nanofibre Technology: New Frontier in Advanced Materials Research”

Polymeric fibrous materials are the fundamental building blocks of living systems. From the 1.5 nm double helix strand of DNA molecules, including cytoskeleton filaments with diameters around 30 nm, to sensory cells such as hair cells and rod cells of the eyes, nanoscale fibres form the extracellular matrices for tissues and organs. Based upon these “blueprints” laid out by nature, it is reasonable to hypothesize that the availability of nanoscale (less than 100 nm diameter) fibres made of polymers having adjustable electronic,
biological, and mechanical properties will not only enable novel biotechnology, neuroscience, microelectronics, and nanoscience research, but also open new opportunities for numerous applications related to health, energy, and environment. After a brief introduction to nanofibre technology, the exciting research and commercial opportunities of nanofibre technology was illustrated through examples of the growing nanofibre-related research activities at UBC.

March 23, 2011

**Ilan Vertinsky**, Sauder School of Business, Institute for Asian Research, and IRES, and 2010 Wall Distinguished Scholar in Residence

"Making Sense of Crises and the Crisis of Crisis Management: Why Are We Managing So Poorly and Can We Do Better?"

Among the most difficult challenges that governments, non-government organizations, and communities face today is their need to be able to cope with crises and increase their resilience to disasters. Disasters are crises with bad endings. Dr. Vertinsky’s talk explored the questions: Why do we fail to build organizations and systems that are resilient to disasters? Why, when coping with crises, do individuals, groups, and organizations often engage in flawed sense making, make bad decisions and take the wrong actions? Why do crises and disaster experiences often fail to result in learning and reform? The talk was followed by a brief overview of research being conducted to improve resilience development and crisis response.

April 6, 2011

**Stanislas Dehaene**, Professor and Chair, Experimental Cognitive Psychology, Collège de France, Paris, Director, INSERM-CEA Cognitive Neuroimaging Unit, Orsay, France, and 2011 Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor

"The Depth and Limits of Subliminal Processing"

Everybody knows about subliminal images. In the laboratory, we can easily flash visual stimuli so quickly, and in such close temporal proximity to other “masking” stimuli, that they cannot be consciously perceived. With his colleagues, Dr. Dehaene is using behavioural measurements and images of brain activity to probe the depth of processing of subliminal words and digits in the human brain. The results indicate that subliminal stimuli receive considerable cortical processing. Many stages of reading can unfold without consciousness: visual word recognition, invariance for font and case, categorization according to instructions, and even motor preparation all operate non-consciously. The question then arises: Does non-conscious processing exhibit any limits? Recent experiments suggest that conscious access is needed for some high-level supervisory operations, including the flexible and rational control of our decisions and the chaining of several steps within a non-routine mental algorithm.

April 13, 2011

**Richard Kurth**, Music

“Singing Meaning Into Lost Childhood in Arcade Fire’s The Suburbs”

_The Suburbs_ by the Montreal-based indie rock band Arcade Fire, was recently awarded Album of the Year in a surprise finish at the 2011 Grammy Awards. The album’s words and music are a generation’s lament for a childhood overwhelmed by suburban sprawl and the cycles of industrialized consumer economy, and an attempt to define a viable adult identity and future. The music, built in layers, works out ambiguities and ironies, resolving some and accepting others. The talk explored how the first two songs (a linked pair) reconfigure familiar features of pop music, symbolically recycling the predictable materials of suburban life and expressing the sediments of mixed feelings, past and present.

May 25, 2011

**John Steeves**, ICORD and 2011 Wall Distinguished Scholar in Residence

“Traversing Clinical Trials”

Everyone is generally familiar with clinical trials, but what is actually involved in the translation of a promising biomedical discovery to human application? It is a long, complex multi-phase process where each phase has a particular goal and unique set of demands. It requires a
rigour uncommon to science, which may explain why many scientists wish others take over the pursuit. Above all else, it is incredibly expensive, with a single drug requiring hundreds of millions of dollars to complete all the requirements for approval as a treatment. In this talk, Dr. Steeves outlined some of the tough lessons learned when science enters the business world of human studies.

June 22, 2011
Philippe Sansonetti, Professor and Director, Microbiology & Infectious Disease, Collège de France and Professor, Pasteur Institute, Paris, and 2011 Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor

“The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: A Fair Scenario for our Microbial Environment?”

In this lecture, Dr. Sansonetti provided a global view of the nature of the microbes that humans are facing, from the truly symbiotic/mutualistic ones constituting our permanent microbiota, to the pathogenic ones that affect our health by causing infections. As usual, nature is not black and white. An increasing grey zone appears between these two well-defined categories; it encompasses the so-called pathobionts, whose functions seem essential in shaping our immune system as it has evolved under the schizophrenic constraint of keeping the good, rejecting the bad, and dealing with the ugly. In this complex crosstalk may reside the major parameters of the Hygiene Hypothesis.

September 28, 2011
Richard Unger, History and 2011 Wall Distinguished Scholar in Residence

“Energy Consumption and the Environmental Impact of the Black Death”

In the mid-fourteenth century, European population fell by between 40 and 50 percent, which affected almost all aspects of life in the short term and also in the long term. Total energy consumption declined with population and the shrinking of settlement. The retreat of the humans did not mean a straightforward reversion of large tracts of land to some wild state because of the various ways in which people reacted to a world with much smaller numbers of them. An effort to calculate energy consumption by Europeans before and after the Black Death indicates the problems of trying to generate reliable data for large populations in the years before there were governments to publish aggregate figures. Yet, the results show that the impact on the environment varied, and human strategies—dictated by economics, technology, psychology, and tastes—mitigated any dramatic changes in the ways people dealt with the natural world around them.

October 26, 2011
Guy Dumont, Electrical & Computer Engineering and 2011 Wall Distinguished Scholar in Residence

“Comfortably Numb: Cruise Control for Anesthesia”

Computer control has become ubiquitous in our daily lives, from cruise control to autopilots, from anti-lock braking systems to DVD players. Many of our modern devices would be impossible if it were not for sophisticated control theory working in conjunction with high-performance sensors and actuators. Premature attempts at automating drug delivery in the operating room took place as early as 1950. However, it is only in the last decade that the prospects of fully automatic control of drug delivery for anesthesia have become serious. This talk presented some recent efforts toward measuring and controlling the effects of anesthetic drugs automatically, in a system akin to a cruise controller or an autopilot for anesthesiologists. Technical challenges and potential benefits of such a system were also discussed.

November 16, 2011
Tim Stainton, School of Social Work

“In from the Margins: New Foundations for Personhood and Legal Capacity in the 21st Century”

SPECIAL EVENTS

Distinguished Scholars in Residence Alumni Dinner
February 2, 2011
The fifth annual alumni dinner reunited Distinguished Scholars in Residence from previous years. Participation rates were as usual exceptionally high, and of course the numbers grow with the addition of a new cohort each year. The surprise speaker this year was Dr. Michael Church, Department of Geography, on the topic “Fish, Floods, and Gold in the Fraser River.” We were introduced to his CD, rather unglamorously titled “Gravel Removal Research on the Fraser River,” which contains video tapes of a nine-minute interview and a rather gripping thirty-minute “diary” of the river trip, a topic with close ties to Mike’s year as a 2002 Distinguished Scholar in Residence.

Distinguished Visiting Professor Public Lectures
Stanislas Dehaene, April 7 & 15, 2011
Dr. Stanislas Dehaene, Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor under the Wall Institute’s partnership with the Collège de France, spoke on “Reading in The Brain” at the UBC Chan Centre, Royal Bank Cinema, delivering the message that through education we expand the competences of our human brains beyond those initially provided by evolution. This lecture described fundamental research on how literacy changes the brain. To a packed audience at the UBC Brain Research Centre on April 15, Dr. Dehaene described his research on “Electrophysiological Signatures of Conscious Access.” Understanding the brain mechanism that leads to conscious experience is a major challenge. He described a series of experiments using different approaches to study how culture and biology interact in the brain.

“Reading in the Brain” is available as a video podcast on the Institute’s website.

Returning Distinguished Visiting Professor Public Lecture
Alain Berthoz, September 14, 2011
A late afternoon talk, “Brain Mechanisms for Empathy and the Cognitive Foundations of Tolerance,” was delivered by Alain Berthoz, Honorary Professor and Founding Director of the Laboratory of Physiology of Perception and Action of CNRS, Collège de France, to a full audience at the Liu Institute for Global Issues. Understanding others’ thoughts, desires, and emotions, and accepting a plurality of opinions and feelings, is a fundamental basis of social interaction. Empathy and sympathy allow humans to understand each other. Both are essential for developing respect, social norms, moral behavior, and tolerance. One challenge for modern neuroscience is to try to understand the cognitive basis of empathy. This talk examined, among other things, recent behavioural and brain imaging studies which contribute to this goal. The new Consul General of France in Vancouver, Mme Evelyne Decorps, and the scientific attaché, Dr. Didier Marty-Dessus, joined us for the Faculty Associates dinner that followed Dr. Berthoz’s talk.

“Brain Mechanisms” is available as an audio podcast on the Institute’s website.
National Arts Centre
Summer Music Institute Composers Program
June 23–29, 2011

Honorary Wall Composer in Residence (2010-2012) Alfredo Santa Ana participated as a Canadian Fellow in the Composers Program at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. His composition “Through the Burrow,” written as a musical allegory to Franz Kafka’s unfinished short story “The Burrow,” was premiered by the Orchestre de la Francophonie under the direction of Jean-Philippe Tremblay. In addition, Dr. Santa Ana presented his research on impermanent large-scale form alongside an adjudicated cohort of national and international composers. The program was presided over by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra’s Composer Advisor Gary Kulesha. Institute funds covered expenses not included under the terms of the NAC fellowship.

Gala Reception for the New Peter Wall Distinguished Professor
October 12, 2011

On the occasion of the appointment of Dr. Derek Gregory, UBC Department of Geography, as a Peter Wall Distinguished Professor, Drs. Dianne Newell, Director, and Brett Finlay, Peter Wall Distinguished Professor, invited Wall Faculty Associates and friends to a special gala reception held in the University Centre. At this well-attended, joyful event, informal words of praise were offered by the Dean of Arts, Gage Averill, Head of Geography, David Ley, and former Head of Geography and 2006 Acting Director of the Peter Wall Institute, Olav Slaymaker.

Peter Wall Institute Holiday Reception
December 2, 2011

Over 100 Faculty Associates, friends of the Institute, and guests, including children and other family members, gathered for fine music, excellent refreshments served up by Sage Catering, and, as always, lively conversations and discoveries of people connections.

Farewell Reception for the Outgoing Peter Wall Institute Director
December 8, 2011

Wall Associates and friends attended a farewell reception in honour of Dianne Newell, outgoing Director of the Peter Wall Institute. The reception was held at Sage Bistro at the University Centre. During the reception, Lawrence Ward, Wall Associate and friend, expressed his admiration for Dianne Newell and highlighted her important contributions to the Peter Wall Institute. Speeches were made by John Hepburn, Vice President Research & International, Derek Gregory, Wall Distinguished Professor, and Janis Sarra. Tributes were read on behalf of Brett Finlay, Wall Distinguished Professor, and Trustees, UBC President Stephen Toope and Akbar Lalani.

Dianne Newell stepped down as Director on December 31, 2011. She is succeeded by Dr. Janis Sarra, Professor, Faculty of Law.
A current strategic direction of the Institute is to create scholarly partnerships among the international network of institutes of advanced study to support research of lasting value and impact. The Institute has since the fall of 2008 concluded memoranda of understanding for faculty exchanges and colloquia with the forerunner of all institutes for advanced study, the Collège de France in Paris, established in 1530, and with one of the newest, the Technical University of Munich–Institute for Advanced Study, founded in 2005. We have also partnered with Africa’s young, premier institute, the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study, South Africa.
Wall Colloquia Abroad
In recognition of its commitment to research exchanges and collaborations with its international partners, the Institute launched in 2009 a special program to co-sponsor and fund colloquia headed by Wall Institute Associates at its partner institutes. These are similar to the Institute’s Exploratory Workshops and are evaluated by the same committee. Holding meetings in other parts of the world raises the research profile of the Institute, enhances the intellectual value of the Institute’s international partnerships, and attracts key international researchers who might not otherwise be able to participate.

Five Wall Colloquia Abroad were held at our partner institutes in 2011.

Commensal Microbiota: From Homeostasis to Disease
Principal Investigator: Brett Finlay, Professor of Biochemistry and Microbiology and Peter Wall Distinguished Professor, UBC. Co-organizer: Philippe Sansonetti, Professor and Chair, Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, Collège de France, and Professor, Pasteur Institute, Paris.

The Institute held its first Colloquium Abroad at its partner institute, the Collège de France, Paris, May 23–24, 2011. A one-day, closed-door session for key speakers followed the public meeting. Co-sponsored by TORNADO consortium, the colloquium took place during Professor Finlay’s appointment there as a Wall Institute-nominated Chair d’État. The meeting detailed recent advances as well as background information in the fast-moving field of the study of microbiota to significantly advance science in this area of research. In addition to discussing the state-of-the-art concerning microbiota and its biology, topics included the interaction between the host and the microbiota including the immune aspects and impacts of disease, and the impact on human physiology and human diseases. The fifty invited participants shared their research with an audience that reached upwards of 200, with video recordings of the talks available on the Collège’s website and the Institute’s website (www.microbiot.pwias.ubc.ca/podcasts). The colloquium has already led to applications for funding to support both a new network of Canadian and European researchers and a major research proposal.

Multimodal & Sensorimotor Bionics
Principal Investigator: Dinesh Pai, Professor of Computer Science, UBC. Co-organizer: J. Leo van Hemmen, Physics, TUM.

The colloquium was co-organized, co-funded, and hosted with our partner institute, the Technical University of Munich – Institute for Advanced Study (TUM–IAS), July 25–28, 2011. The Munich colloquium brought together an interdisciplinary group of experts from Europe and North America to try to understand basic principles underlying biological sensorimotor systems such as human hands and robots, eye movements in humans, and robotic vision systems; the use of computational models to assist in diagnosis and treatment of sensorimotor pathologies; and the design of high performance robots based on biological principles. The meeting attracted a large audience of approximately 100 researchers and was considered a high-level display of conjunctions of science and engineering.

Coherence and Decoherence at Ultra-Cold Temperatures
Principal Investigator: Moshe Shapiro, Professor of Chemistry, UBC.

This colloquium was hosted, co-organized, co-funded, with our partner institute, the Technical University of Munich – Institute for Advanced Study (TUM–IAS), where it was held, September 6–9, 2011. The four-day meeting, which engaged the best investigators in this field from Canada, Europe, and the United States, explored issues of coherence in cold (<1K) and ultra-cold (<1mK) molecular systems and how to control and minimize the deleterious effects of the omni-present decoherence processes that arise due to our inability to completely isolate the system from the environment. Theoretical proposals as well as experimental methods were discussed for utilizing coherence as a means of controlling chemical reactions between and within ultra-cold molecules and ways of controlling decoherence. The colloquium attracted a wide attendance, including students. As a continuation, a European Science Foundation sponsored workshop will take place in 2012 in Innsbruck, Austria. Also, a joint conference organized by the Peter Wall Institute and the Institute for Molecular Science, Okazaki, Japan is in the planning stages.

Additional support for the September 2011 colloquium was provided by the Max Planck Institute for Quantum Optics, Garching, Germany; the
Institute for Quantum Optics and Quantum Information of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Innsbruck, Austria; and the Peter Wall Major Thematic Grant on Ultra-Cold Chemistry.

**Continuity in Energy Regimes: Failed Transitions and the Persistence of Sustainability**

Principal Investigator: Richard Unger, Professor Emeritus, History, UBC and 2011 Wall Distinguished Scholar in Residence.

This colloquium was co-organized and co-funded with our partner institute, the Technical University of Munich – Institute for Advanced Study (TUM–IAS), and co-sponsored by the Deutsches Museum. It was held at TUM–IAS and the Museum, October 27–29, 2011.

The goal of the three-day meeting was to examine why older, more traditional sources of energy survive and in some cases even revive and thrive despite the presence of newer and more “modern” sources of power. Papers focussed on the late Middle Ages to the twenty-first century and explored reasons for the survival of traditional energy sources and reasons for partial or slow transitions to more powerful or notionally more efficient providers. Discussions of ways of measuring transitions, and reasons for both short- and long-term delays in adopting new carriers were at the heart of the meeting. Scholars from Canada and Europe active in the study of political, environmental, and economic history as well as engineers and social ecologists discussed different energy carriers in separate sessions. Summaries of the papers along with an introduction describing the results of the discussions will be published on the Internet in the Perspectives series of the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich. A published volume or volumes on the topic of continuity of energy regimes is being planned.

**“Many Voices One Song”: Health-Promoting Schools – Evidence, Strategies, Challenges, and Prospects**

Principal Investigator: Andrew Macnab, Pediatrics and Urologic Sciences, UBC and Wall Institute-nominated Fellow at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS).

The colloquium was held at and co-sponsored by the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study, Stellenbosch, South Africa on November 9–11, 2011. It brought together – in most cases for the first time – international experts and, particularly, stakeholders from sub-Saharan Africa to review the lessons learned to date and to define the key elements and optimum processes for establishing and sustaining effective health-promoting schools in sub-Saharan Africa. The material is being incorporated into a comprehensive manual that will enable communities to establish, operate, sustain, and evaluate health-promoting schools. A monograph of papers will also be submitted for publication.

At a well-attended special public event held during the colloquium, key opinion leaders and educators in South Africa presented an overview of the current knowledge, research, and evaluation of school-based health promotion programs and led discussion on the implementation and benefit for children of this health education model with reference to World Health Organization guidelines.
Distinguished Faculty Exchanges
Under the memoranda of understanding with our International Partners, the Institute can welcome each year up to three professors from the Collège de France, and in turn, the Collège can invite up to three senior Faculty Associates of the Institute for one month under the rubric of its Chair d’État program. Stellenbosch will welcome up to five nominations per year of senior Faculty Associates of the Institute for fellowships of three months or longer. The Institute and TUM-IAS will arrange for annual brief exchanges of small, interdisciplinary research clusters with interests in a common topic. The Institute and the respective International Partners adjudicate all nominations and appointments.

Faculty exchanges between senior Associates of the Institute and the Collège de France in 2011 were:

Alain Berthoz, Collège de France, Founding Director of the Laboratory of Physiology of Perception and Action of CNRS and Returning Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor, September 2011. Details on Professor Berthoz’s one-month visit are available under “Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor.”

Brett Finlay, Professor, Biochemistry and Microbiology and Peter Wall Distinguished Professor, and Chair d’État, Collège de France, May 2011. During his one-month appointment as Chair d’État at the Collège de France, Professor Finlay delivered a series of distinguished public lectures including: “Combating the Microbial Menace: Battling the Bugs” (May 9); “The interdisciplinarity of Enteric Infectious Diseases” (May 17); “The Role of the Microbiota in Enteric Infectious Diseases” (May 23); and “Salmonella: From Diarrhea to Typhoid Fever” (May 27). Video recordings of these lectures are available on the Collège's website. Professor Finlay also gave many informal talks and seminars and co-organized with Philippe Sansonetti an international, interdisciplinary Wall Colloquium Abroad, “Commensal Microbiota: From Homeostasis to Disease,” May 23–24, 2011.

Stanislas Dehaene, Professor and Chair of Experimental Cognitive Psychology, Collège de France and Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor, April 2011. Details on Professor Dehaene’s two-week visit are available under “Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor.”

Philippe Sansonetti, Professor and Chair, Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, Collège de France, and Professor, Pasteur Institute, Paris and Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor, June 2011. Details on Professor Sansonetti’s two-week visit are available under “Peter Wall Distinguished Visiting Professor.”

Andrew Macnab, Professor, Pediatrics and Urologic Sciences, UBC and 2006 Wall Distinguished Scholar in Residence; STIAS Fellow 2009 and 2010, Returning Fellow, 2011 and 2012. The Wall Institute endorsed, under our partnership, an additional three-month STIAS fellowship for Professor Macnab, to end March 2012. His Ugandan collaborator was again invited by STIAS to join him for a portion of his fellowship. At STIAS, Professor Macnab organized a Wall Colloquium Abroad on the topic of his ongoing work as a STIAS Fellow, “‘Many Voices One Song’: Health-Promoting Schools – Evidence, Strategies, Challenges, and Prospects,” November 9–11, 2011.
FUNDING

The Institute is fully endowment-funded. The Peter Wall Endowment comprises Peter Wall’s original gift of 6.5 million Wall Financial Corporation shares. Peter Wall is a visionary Vancouver property developer responsible for the iconic Wall Centre in the downtown area. The dividends from the shares support programs, the lease, and a major portion of the Institute’s administration. Interest from the Hampton Endowment, a UBC fund dedicated to the Institute in 1994, supports programs and the balance of the administration costs.

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.” Since January 1, 2005, the Institute has for routine matters reported to the Office of the Vice President Research & International. An Academic Advisory Committee of the Institute meets prior to Trustees’ meetings to discuss with the Director program policy and special initiatives. A Management Committee of the Board of Trustees was reconstituted at the June 2011 meeting of the Trustees. The budget, and all financial matters, including investments, are first discussed by the Management Committee and then brought to the Trustees for approval or information.
**Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees has overall responsibilities for the policies and finances of the Institute. The Board meets with the Institute Director twice yearly. The five Trustees are the UBC President, who chairs the Board, two UBC-appointed Trustees, and two donor-appointed Trustees.

As of December 31, 2011, there are five Trustees:
- **Akbar Lalani**, MD, Royal Columbian Hospital
- **Anne Martin-Matthews**, Sociology
- **Stephen J. Toope**, UBC President
- **Sonya Wall**, Donor Family
- **Clark Warren**, Chair, UBC Foundation

Official Observers of the Board (as of December 31, 2011):
- **David Farrar**, Provost and VP Academic
- **Brett Finlay**, Peter Wall Distinguished Professor
- **Derek Gregory**, Peter Wall Distinguished Professor
- **John Hepburn**, VP Research & International
- **Dianne Newell**, Institute Director
- **Bruno Wall**, President, Treasurer, and Director, Wall Financial Corporation

**Management Committee of the Board of Trustees**

As of December 31, 2011, there are five members:
- **PWIAS Director** (ex officio)
- **Ian Burgess** (interim appointment), UBC Comptroller
- **Peter Smailes**, UBC Treasurer
- **Bruno Wall**, Wall Financial Corporation
- **Sonya Wall**, Trustee

**Academic Advisory Committee**

As of December 31, 2011, there are eleven members:
- **Anne Condon**, Computer Science
- **Brett Finlay**, Peter Wall Distinguished Professor and Vice-Chair
- **Derek Gregory**, Peter Wall Distinguished Professor
- **Nassif Ghoussoub**, Mathematics and Scientific Director, Banff International Research Station
- **Alan Mackworth**, Computer Science
- **Dianne Newell**, Director and Chair
- **Sarah Otto**, Zoology
- **Anthony Phillips**, Psychiatry
- **Angela Redish**, Economics
- **Lawrence Ward**, Psychology
- One seat vacant
The Institute occupies the two-storey East Wing and the top floor of the Leon and Thea Koerner University Centre, University of British Columbia. In 2008, the University renamed the East Wing as the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies.

Office Area
With completion of the major renovations to the top floor of the East Wing in April 2009, the space now includes the offices of the Assistant Director and Senior Program Coordinator, a Financial and Facilities Clerk reception desk, an Administrative Assistant desk, a Project Office for Major Thematic Grants, a Distinguished Visitor’s Office for Wall Distinguished Visiting Professors and other guests of the Director, an open plan meeting area, and a small seminar room, staff room, and storage room.

Scholars’ Area
The east half of the top floor of the University Centre houses the Office of the Director, the research offices of the Wall Distinguished Professors and Distinguished Scholars in Residence, and a lounge and kitchenette for the use of the residential scholars and small gatherings called by the Director. The Peter Wall Boardroom is used for Institute Board of Trustees’ meetings and the Director’s meetings. Refurbishment to this area was completed in 2009.

Conference Rooms
The Institute operates two conference rooms in the west side of the top floor of the University Centre. The large and small rooms can be used separately or combined for meetings, talks, and meals. Both rooms open onto a large terrace with a sweeping view of the sea and mountains. The larger of the rooms features a fully integrated and automated audio-visual system. Telephone and network connectivity are provided throughout the conference area. 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 Institute programs, followed by academic-related activities open to the University community. Refurbishment to this area was completed in 2009. Income from the rental of the conference rooms is used to offset the operating costs of the facilities.

Guest Rooms
The Institute’s four non-smoking guest rooms and a one-bedroom guest apartment are located in the Annex. The apartment renovation was completed in 2011. The guest rooms and apartment are available only for participants in Institute-sponsored programs.
DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Outgoing Director: Dianne Newell
Professor Newell is an historian of technology. She was a Wall Scholar in Residence in 2002 and Acting Director 2003–2005, then appointed full-time Director, for five years, beginning January 1, 2007. As Director, she has developed and led the Institute’s strategic direction, which has focused on both reaching out to the local community and creating scholarly partnerships among the international network of advanced research institutes. Under her leadership, the Institute has expanded its facilities, programs, and information systems to enhance its reputation as an inspiring location for high-risk interdisciplinary and collaborative research and discussions at the highest level.

Incoming Director: Janis Sarra
Dr. Sarra, Professor of Law, UBC Faculty of Law, is an internationally recognized legal scholar in the fields of banking and finance, corporate and securities law, and commercial insolvency law. She held one of the Institute’s first Early Career Scholar appointments and has served on the Early Career Scholar Adjudication Committee for the past four years. In 2010–2011 Professor Sarra was a Wall Distinguished Scholar in Residence, during which time she examined insights and developments in cognitive neuroscience, philosophy, economics, psychology and political science in her research regarding regulatory and private responses to the global financial crisis. Her appointment as Director runs from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2016.

Assistant Director: Barbara Harrmann
Barbara has a Master’s degree in History and Journalism from Leipzig University. She joined the Institute in November 2008 and is responsible for the overall office management, including finance, human resources, IT coordination, and event management.

Senior Program Coordinator: Emma MacEntee
Emma received a Master’s degree in Library & Information Studies from UBC and has nine year’s work experience at UBC. Emma coordinates most aspects of the Institute’s programs, including the main website and individual program websites. She also lends administrative support to the Institute’s Board of Trustees and Management meetings, and the Wall Exchange series of free public downtown talks.

Financial & Facilities Clerk: Jana Berna
Jana holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from the University of Alaska, Anchorage. In addition to booking and administering the Institute’s conference and guest facilities, Jana takes care of the day-to-day financial transactions.

Administrative Assistant:
This position, expected to be filled shortly, supports the Assistant Director and Senior Program Coordinator and provides general administrative and clerical assistance.

Systems Coordination:
Systems coordination is in the hands of our UBC IT Client Services team.