More Than a Matter of Degree
President’s Annual Report
2007 – 2008
page 6
Transformation Is Upon Us
BY PAUL W. GOOCH

While ruminating the other day about the meaning of significant change at Vic, I happened to note a curiosity in the Oxford English Dictionary definition of ‘metamorphosis.’ It involves a difference between Bottom and butterflies. For literary associations, its meaning is the first one: “The action or process of changing in form, shape, or substance; esp. transformation by supernatural means.” But for biological contexts, we must go to the third meaning: “The process of transformation from an immature form to a different adult form that many insects and other invertebrates, and some vertebrates (e.g. frogs), undergo in the course of maturing.”

There we have the difference: some metamorphoses are supernatural, and some, though astounding as a man growing a donkey’s head, are the changes wrought by nature: acorn to oak, caterpillar to monarch.

What’s common to both uses, of course, is the notion of change so complete that the very character of the subject is altered—transformed, we say, the t-word being the Latin version of the Greek m-word. When we want transformation, we will not settle for incremental alteration in the status quo. We don’t want a bigger caterpillar; we want wings.

It may seem hyperbolic, then, to speak of transforming undergraduate education at Vic. Surely it would be enough to acknowledge that like most places we could be a little better, with modest and realizable improvements. What metamorphoses can Vic accomplish?

The answer lies in what it is we want to transform: not just the lecture hall, but the entire experience of every Vic student, from orientation to graduation. Given the increasing emphasis upon credentials, a university education may become chiefly a matter of accumulating a number of credits. What happens outside the classroom becomes peripheral: indeed, we speak of ‘incidental’ fees for those activities. Vic wants to change this, pervasively. Coursework is essential; intellectual growth must be the aspiration we hold for all our students. Nevertheless, about 8% per cent of a student’s waking hours are lived outside the classroom. Lifelong friendships hatch in common rooms and cafeterias; passions for politics or poetry awaken in clubs and public events. What was once known as the well-rounded life must also be our aspiration for Vic students. That’s why we are calling this ambition “More Than a Matter of Degree.”

We do want curricular transformation, of course. That’s what has inspired Vic’s attention to first-year programs: the small class experience gives wings to many students who otherwise would find themselves lost in largeness. We are now proposing special programs in succeeding years that will bring significant change to the study, say, of material culture as we resurrect our historic ties with institutions such as the Royal Ontario Museum. Throughout this issue’s 2007 – 2008 annual report (see page 6), you’ll read other stories of the change that is creating the distinctive Vic experience. Emmanuel College too has undergone a pervasive review of its theological curriculum; as it celebrates its 80th anniversary this year, the College is looking to a new future that is fully engaged with its academic, urban and multicultural setting.

There’s one more major transformative initiative begun this year: the approval of the schematic design to take the Wymilwood building through a metamorphosis into the Goldring Student Centre. This metamorphosis won’t happen naturally, though, or even miraculously: it will require our determination and the help of all who believe in the future. In our very architecture will be expressed the birth of the new from the honoured past. And in this new, expanded space, the next generations of Vic students will experience a rounded education that will truly and deeply change them for the rest of their lives.
Emmanuel Welcomes Mark Toulouse
Senior Scholar College’s New Principal

Accomplished academic, scholar and author Mark G. Toulouse took office as the 12th principal of Victoria’s theological college on Jan. 1, 2009. Toulouse joins Emmanuel College after 22 years at Brite Divinity School of Texas Christian University, where he was a professor of American religious history. In addition to his teaching duties, Toulouse held administrative roles as associate dean, dean and executive vice-president.

“He was our unanimous choice,” says Victoria University president Paul W. Gooch, who led the search committee to appoint Emmanuel’s new principal. “We were incredibly impressed with Mark’s achievements as a senior scholar of religion and public life, and with his academic administrative skills and experience. He is analytical, thoughtful and scholarly.”

Toulouse’s early priorities for Emmanuel include advancing the recommendations set forth by the Emmanuel College Review Committee in 2007 and preparing for Emmanuel’s 10-year accreditation review by the Association of Theological Schools in 2011. He has considerable experience with the ATS review process, having gone through it at Brite and as chair of many ATS visiting committees.

Toulouse received his BA from Howard Payne University, an MDiv from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and a PhD from the University of Chicago. He is also an ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). In 2006, he published his most recent book, God in Public, an analysis of the relationship between Christian faith and public life in the United States.

Nancy Ruhnke 2008 Distinguished Alumni Award Winner
‘Heart and Soul’ of the Vic Book Sale

In 1992, Nancy (Adams) Ruhnke Vic 7T3 was asked by professor emeritus David Hoeniger Vic 4T6 if she had an afternoon to spare. She could not have imagined where her answer would lead. Seventeen years and over $1 million later, Ruhnke has been named the recipient of the 2008 Distinguished Alumni Award.

Ruhnke has been a member of the Friends of the Victoria University Library since the group’s inception in 1992. She served as the executive’s chair from 1998 to 2008 and chaired the organizing committee for the group’s annual book sale from 1997 to 2008. In both areas of involvement, she helped the Friends consistently raise a wealth of support for library initiatives.

Ruhnke has been called the “heart and soul” of the Vic Book Sale by her fellow volunteers. Each year, in addition to her executive responsibilities for the event, which requires the services of over 160 volunteers, Ruhnke has managed the process of transporting, sorting and pricing the tens of thousands of books donated for sale. This task alone is a full-time, back-breaking job that demands perseverance, organizational skill and patience.

Ruhnke’s thoughts on her volunteer experience to date? “The people I’ve worked with are utterly indispensable to the operation. What I have stored up most in my memory is the laughter we volunteers have shared, the lifelong friendships we have forged, and the sense that we have been able to do some good for Vic.”

To attend the Distinguished Alumni Award dinner for Ruhnke ($45 per person) on March 26, 2009, please call the Victoria Alumni Office at 416-585-4500. See alumni calendar of events on page 20.
Scalene New Heights: The Life of A.P. Coleman
Virtual Exhibit on Famous Canadian Geologist

Canadian geologist, professor, minerals prospector, Rockies explorer, backwoods canoeist, world traveller, popular lecturer, museum administrator and memoirist Arthur P. “A.P.” Coleman Vic 1876 was one of Canada’s most beloved scientists. Mount Coleman in Banff National Park is named in honour of Coleman’s geological discoveries. His life and his life’s work are now on display at Vic in the most extensive online digital archive ever produced by the Victoria University Library.

This new virtual exhibit will allow unfettered access to the breadth and depth of Coleman’s work. Other than an exhibit held by Vic in the late 1980s, access to the university’s wide-ranging collection on Coleman had been limited to reference material outlined on the library’s website and in-person special requests at the E.J. Pratt Library. The Rockies exploration portion of the exhibit will be of particular interest to teachers, with a segment aimed specifically at the high school curriculum.

“What makes this type of exhibit on Coleman particularly interesting is that it is so visual,” says Alison Girling, Victoria University’s project librarian. “He was a geologist, but he was also an artist, always sketching, painting or taking pictures. With this exhibit we’re able to offer a real sense of who he was and what he left behind.”

A.P. Coleman had a long and active career. From the 1890s through 1909, he worked as a mineralogical expert and mining engineer for the Ontario Bureau of Mines, exploring mineral deposits in northern Ontario. This was on top of his teaching commitments at the University of Toronto in the fall and winter months.

In the same period, Coleman organized expeditions to explore and climb the Rocky Mountains of Alberta and British Columbia. He blazed trails, camped, rafted, climbed mountains and discovered uncharted passes, peaks, rivers and streams with his teams. The Coleman archive includes field notebooks of these expeditions, which contain scientific calculations and observations alongside a narrative of various adventures.

In 1901, Coleman was made professor of geology and head of the department in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Toronto. He turned to the study of glacial geology and went on to visit every known glacier in Canada and abroad.

The A.P. Coleman Exhibition is on display at http://library.vicu.utoronto.ca/apcoleman.

2008 Arbor Awards Recognize Volunteer Dedication

Eleven Victoria graduates were honoured in September for their outstanding volunteer work in support of the university. The annual Arbor Award ceremony was held at the official residence of the University of Toronto president. Seen here are (left to right) Ralph Scane Vic 5T3; Rita Schepok Vic 9T1; Ronald Crawford Vic 6T2; Coral Martin Emm 0T2; Robert Wong Vic 6T3; Annette (Miglec) Lindsay Vic 6T0 and Marian (Aitchison) Packham Vic 4T9. Not pictured are fellow honourees Jean (Birkenshaw) Fennell Vic 4T8; Susan Han Vic 8T3; Peter Tonisson Vic 7T0 and Peter Waite Vic 8T6.
Victoria alumni were treated to career and financial management sessions hosted by the Alumni of Victoria College Executive this past fall. Jack Penaligon Vic 7T0 (above), a recruitment professional at Knightsbridge Human Capital, had words of advice for young alumni. In his session, Finding the Perfect Fit, Penaligon spoke about what to consider when looking at a new career path and the importance of finding a fit between an individual and an organization. The career management session was supported by Manulife Financial, a proud affinity partner of the University of Toronto.

Susan (Morawetz) Latremoille Vic 7T3, first vice-president and wealth advisor at Richardson Partners Financial Limited, presented The Present Economic Crisis in the Context of 25 Years of Investing, at a time when many people were beginning to become concerned about the economic downturn. Her session emphasized the need for a long-term investment strategy.

Alumni Advocate Alumni

A Lesson in Diplomacy

Chancellor Jewison in Conversation with Allan Gotlieb

Chancellor Norman Jewison Vic 4T9 treated members of Victoria’s Chancellor’s Council to a candid conversation with retired diplomat Allan Gotlieb, at the annual Charter Day luncheon on October 15, 2008.

Gotlieb shared his observations of American politics from his time as Canada’s ambassador to the United States under Prime Ministers Pierre Trudeau, John Turner and Brian Mulroney. He also commented on the present political landscape south of the border.

With wit and candour, the conversation flowed over a range of topics: U.S. Senator John McCain and the choice of Governor Sarah Palin as his running mate in the U.S elections (“I found it disturbing”); the popularity of the Canadian embassy in Washington during Gotlieb’s time as ambassador (“People came to our embassy, [but] never to meet a Canadian; they came to meet Americans ... except when we gave a party for Norman Jewison!”); and Washington’s dealings with Trudeau (“He may not have been popular in the White House, but when we gave a party for Trudeau, they broke the door down to come ... it may have had something to do with Barbara Streisand”) and Mulroney (“He had a flair and understanding of their role ... absolutely a master of the U.S. political system and the players”).

The lunchtime conversation ended on the topic of Henry Kissinger, with Gotlieb remarking, “His mind works in a way that I stand in awe of, and I would listen to him anytime.”

Where There’s a Will...

Victoria University can be designated as a beneficiary in your will. Here’s an example of a suggested wording: I give and bequeath to the Board of Regents of Victoria University, Toronto, Ontario, the sum of $___ or ___% of my estate. If you wish to designate a specific bequest (a scholarship, the library, etc.), please contact Larry Davies at 416-585-4501, toll free: 1-888-262-9775 or larry.davies@utoronto.ca.

By arranging a planned gift for Victoria, you automatically become a member of the Victoria Heritage Donor Society. Benefits include invitations to special Victoria and U of T campus events, such as Vic’s Charter Day luncheon, as well as recognition in annual donor listings.
When University of Toronto President David Naylor last spring released “Towards 2030,” a long-term planning vision for the institution’s next 20 years, Victoria University was already well on its way towards developing a strategy to significantly enhance all aspects of its own university program.

Uppermost in the minds of Victoria’s academic leadership has been the development of a process to transform the undergraduate experience for Victoria College students as well as advance the basic and graduate-level theological degrees pursued by students of Emmanuel College.

Victoria College is building on the success of two innovative programs for first-year students: Vic One and Vic First Pathways. Launched in 2003 and 2006 respectively, these programs allow students to enrol in seminar courses that are conducive to discussion and debate. The learning environment created through the small class size has translated into students’ completing first year with an enriched university experience and a clearer sense of how their futures will unfold. They also feel a stronger bond with Victoria College and a desire to continue that connection in upper years.

Beginning with the 2008 incoming class, all Vic students are receiving a similar kind of personalized education, now that the small-class experience has become a requirement for registration at Victoria College. All students applying for admission to Vic for the fall of 2009 will also be required to submit a personal profile; faculty and staff will know more about the entering class and the profile will help Victoria offer a more personalized university experience.
Yet, an emphasis on the first-year experience cannot come at the expense of making a student’s subsequent years of university education impersonal. Vic is examining opportunities in its programs to: establish intimate classroom settings throughout the four years of study, emphasize collaborative research projects and real-world learning experiences, introduce a study abroad/away component, and invest in a rich array of extracurricular activities available at Victoria College and the university at large. “The 21st-century undergraduate program,” as President Paul Gooch says, “must be about much more than just collecting the requisite credits for a degree.”

One initiative to realize these goals is the Chancellor’s Program, currently under consideration. Victoria College Principal David Cook Vic 6T9 explains that the program’s model is heavily influenced by the British tutorial system, which has long stressed small groups of students working closely with faculty throughout their studies. Victoria University is also exploring opportunities to collaborate on programs with the Northrop Frye Centre, the Centre for Comparative Literature, the Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, and the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, whose offices are located on the Vic campus.

Victoria intends to further enrich the student experience by leveraging its close relationships with the Royal Ontario Museum and the Gardiner Museum. In the coming years, Victoria University plans to launch a material culture program
Rosemary Newman Vic 9T0 is a partner at Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, where her practice in corporate and securities law has her involved in domestic and international transactions of the highest level, including acquisitions, corporate reorganizations, and public and private financings. She is also a member of Victoria University’s Board of Regents and has participated in the career development series organized by the Office of the Dean of Students.

For Newman, her Vic student experience is defined by a range of opportunities, from thought-provoking lectures with literary critic Northrop Frye Vic 3T3, Emm 3T6 and philosopher Francis Sparshott, to living in residence and getting involved in a whole host of activities. She remembers discussing ideas late into the night over a cup of coffee; working on The Strand because she was intrigued with the idea of how to produce a newspaper; getting involved with the Bob and serving on the stage crew for a campus musical; working as the services commissioner on VUSAC; spending a year abroad at the Centre International d’Etudes Françaises in Angers, France; and working at Hart House while completing her last two years of study.

“You’re the sum of all your experiences, so I can’t say that Vic is the only thing that took me to where I am today,” says Newman. “But, like everything, the first time you go away to university and engage in independent studies sets the tone for how you look at life going forward.”

Newman’s Law

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The task of filling out Victoria’s undergraduate experience must extend well beyond the academic program. One of the key goals will be to promote study abroad opportunities for third-year students. At present, about 15 per cent of Victoria College students spend part of their university career studying elsewhere. The University’s goal is to double that rate in recognition of the growing diversity of the Victoria student body, as well as the global dimension of the economy and a growing range of careers.

In order to increase the number of exchange opportunities, Registrar Susan McDonald has added staff and web resources to expand upon the services provided by U of T’s international exchange office. Victoria University’s commitment to study abroad opportunities gained an important source of support last year, thanks to a recent gift of $500,000 by the parents of a
A Winning Attitude

The University of Toronto regained football respectability in 2008, in no small part due to Vic student and Varsity Blues quarterback David Hamilton. This past November, Hamilton became the first U of T student to receive the Canadian Interuniversity Sport’s Russ Jackson Award since it was presented in 1986. The award recognizes Hamilton’s athletic prowess and academic abilities—the human biology major was named a CIS academic all-Canadian in 2007 for maintaining a 3.8 grade point average—but it’s also a citation for community service and his life outside the classroom.

Hamilton will long be remembered for helping lead the Blues to their first win since October 2001 at the 2008 Labour Day game against the Waterloo Warriors. It’s a memory he won’t soon forget, but next to those recollections will be those of other activities that have defined his university experience: serving as a residence representative on the Victoria College Athletics Association for two years and a third as treasurer; raising funds for Athletes in Africa; playing basketball with the young people of Evergreen Youth Service; and visiting the paediatric ward of Toronto East General, hanging out with the kids and participating in information workshops for children who will be undergoing surgery.

“It comes down to what you want your university experience to be like,” he says. “You can get so much more back by taking that little extra step. The people I’ve met and the things I’ve gotten to see—even the experience with football, despite not winning a lot of games—will last me a lifetime.”

The Summer of a Lifetime

Climbing snow-capped volcanoes in the Andes. Travelling down the Amazon at night to study cayman alligators and anacondas. Visiting the Galapagos Islands to see the tortoises that Darwin saw. Vic’s Susanna Redekop packed all these adventures and more into her summer abroad program studying ecology and conservation in Ecuador this past year, where she explored unique flora and fauna, and discovered and classified new species of dung beetles.

Redekop, a fourth-year anthropology student, says the program tapped into her field of study in a unique way. “I was the only anthropologist on the trip, and the one with the lightest science background, so my approach was to take a more critical eye to how we were interacting with the indigenous populations that were there, and how the oil companies coming into the Amazon affect their way of life.”

It all added up to an experience that has helped shape Redekop’s perspective on the world. “No matter how much I think I know about this world, each course I take opens my mind up that much more,” she says. “I realize that the previous notions I had can be completely dispelled with new theories and new thinking. I realize I need to look at my own biases and step out of them.”
In Lifelong Conversation

Fiction was Magdalene Redekop’s stimulation and escape from boredom as a child. Fiction continues to be her passion as a professor of English at Vic. While Redekop doesn’t expect all of her students to follow a path similar to hers, she strives to ignite within them that same excitement of interacting with a work of fiction.

“As a teacher, you should be giving students something in the classroom that they can’t get elsewhere. You take them in whatever way—cajoling, pushing, provoking, nurturing—into the biggest challenge of a particular literary text, and they should emerge with something having happened to them. I feel as if I’ve failed if something hasn’t,” says Redekop. “My view is that education is a conversation. It’s scholars conversing amongst themselves, scholars conversing with their students and scholars teaching students to converse with each other, and with an open mind.”

She believes that the process of contributing to a conversation is also what develops minds that question what is being presented, a quality essential to anyone’s future. “Crucial elements of a liberal arts education are the ability to think critically and to take critical distance from any text. We teach students the importance of recognizing something as a fiction. After all, if you don’t recognize a fiction, you may find yourself living as a character inside someone else’s fiction.”

student who were impressed with the experience that Vic students receive.

Recent fundraising initiatives have resulted in additional sources of student support, with bursaries of up to $2,000 available to assist students to study abroad. As McDonald points out, for students living in residence, the cost is similar to one year of study at Vic, except for added travel-related and living expenses. The bursaries will help cover these additional costs.

Victoria University recognizes that raising the profile of its study abroad program will increase demand for bursaries. Indeed, Victoria is stepping up its efforts to raise funds earmarked just for this kind of student assistance. President Gooch notes that alumni are enthusiastic in their support, citing the recent Victoria College Class of 1958 reunion dinner as an example. "When I mentioned our encouragement of students studying abroad, they broke into spontaneous applause."

Support and encouragement from alumni continue to grow. “The fundraising campaign we’ve had over the past several years has been very successful,” says Bursar David Keeling. Victoria University raised about $10 million in 2007, its best year ever. That total included the lead gift of $4 million from siblings Judy Goldring Vic 8T7 and Blake Goldring Vic 8T1 for the new Goldring Student Centre. Since the early 2000s, explains Director of Alumni Affairs and University Advancement Larry Davies, the annual fundraising total has averaged $5 million.

For 2008 – 2009, Victoria University will also complete the planning, finance and design preparations for the Goldring Student Centre. University officials and the project’s architects, Moriyama & Teshima, are working with the City of Toronto on final approvals and site plans. The project is a joint venture between Victoria, its students and the alumni.

Dean of Students Jason Hunter says the next four years will see increased efforts to engage international students, promote residence life, and expand athletic and cultural activities. With more than 20 student clubs now recognized by the Victoria University Students’ Administrative Council—and the list continues to grow—the University is paying more attention to the hundreds of hours students spend outside the classroom.

“Unprecedented numbers of students will participate in areas of personal interest as a result of generous alumni contributions,” predicts Hunter. The William Crichton Webster Fund for athletics is just one of several helpful endowments created to support extracurricular involvement. The new student centre will provide an expanded home for many of these activities and increase opportunities for commuter student involvement. “This is the way to transform the out-of-class experience for all Vic and Emmanuel students,” says President Gooch.
Looking Beyond the Classroom

Pathobiology student Cheng Yao is grateful for the education that he received through the life sciences stream of Vic One in his first year of study in 2007 – 2008. He remarks on how rare it is for a first year student to get the sort of attention and devotion he received from his professors. “That’s what I loved about Vic One—talking with my professors, hashing out ideas and cracking a few jokes now and then.”

In the summer before first year, Yao represented Canada at the International Biology Olympiad in Saskatchewan. He came to Vic wanting to do something in the sciences, but also knowing that university would be a way for him to find his own path.

“The Stowe-Gullen stream made me realize that I want to be out there, doing something big and important. I want to be part of a team, contributing to something bigger than me, in a metaphysical sense, and I want to be doing it with people I enjoy being around.”

Caroline Land Vic 0T7 looks back on her time as a Northrop Frye stream student in Vic One in 2003, the inaugural year of the program, with great appreciation for what she was able to experience. “The research we were doing was moved outside the classroom and grounded in a reality that went beyond books and grades,” she says, recalling how she held membership cards to at least five different archives as part of the research required for several of her projects.

Land remembers, in awe, her meeting with author and historian Natalie Zemon Davies, who spoke at a Vic One plenary session about her book *The Return of Martin Guerre*. The occasion remains vivid in Land’s mind because she had written an essay on one of Davies’ other works just weeks before their encounter.

Land is currently in her second year of a two-year master’s degree in library and information studies at the University of Alberta. The discussions and lectures of that first year at Vic resonate for her in studies today, and the level of research asked of her then has prepared her for the high expectations she must now meet.
Shaping Student Experience

Theological schools everywhere are being challenged with the same issue: radical or significant curriculum revision in a contemporary context designed to deal with living on the boundary of the church and the academy. Emmanuel College concluded its own review in 2007 – 2008, and the implementation of its recommendations to date has created what William Kervin Emm ’74, professor of public worship and chair of the curriculum committee, observes to be a richer, more exciting environment.

The curriculum is now clustered around the areas of Christian faith and heritage, culture and context, practices for church leadership, and spiritual and vocational formation. The work of Emmanuel’s faculty has been rendered much clearer, and the expectations and outcomes for students more definable. The increase in consultation between faculty members on course materials has put even greater emphasis on shaping a valuable student experience.

This integrated approach to the curriculum has also created the potential to make the programs of Emmanuel increasingly more rigorous. There is a heightened sense of how a strong focus on skills for ministry requires a deep level of theological reflection and how a significant contribution to the scholarship of one’s discipline may refine and deepen the mission of the church.

“Victoria’s involvement in theological education has always been deeply academic and scholarly, and the church has been enriched because of Emmanuel’s contribution to the scholarship,” says Kervin. “It’s been important for all of us at Emmanuel to hold to that vision and not compromise on it.”

A French Connection

Richard Ramsahoye’s deep sense of belonging in the Vic community began in Frosh Week in 2005 and only grew stronger over the last three and a half years. “It was the greatest feeling in the world,” he says. Now, through the study abroad program he participated in last year, he’s found another place that feels just as much like home.

Since his own warm reception at Vic, the French literature and languages student has worked to pass on that same feeling of community to other students by getting involved in campus activities through VUSAC and serving as a frosh leader. Then in fall 2007 he realized a long-held dream to spend part of his university years in France.

“Studying abroad, whether it is in France or another country, gives you a more global perspective. They think in a different way because they’ve been raised in a different culture with a different mentality, and you come with this Canadian perspective. Your task is to join the two together and find a commonality,” says Ramsahoye, thinking back to his third year at the University of Nantes in northwest France. “You’re in between two cultures and you’ve got to find your foothold in both.”

The intensity of Ramsahoye’s international experience is immeasurable, but one gets a sense of its depth with the news that he plans to return to France to teach English following graduation. “France is a part of me now,” he says. “It’s accepted me, I’ve accepted it, and I need to go back.”
The Defining Choice

For John Grant Vic 8T3, relationships are at the core of who he is. He places a high value on the ones he has with his family and friends, and he brings that same life perspective to his work as an investment banker, and more recently as an investment advisor with The Harbour Group at RBC. “Relationships require nurturing, however,” he says, “it’s why we are here.” It’s a philosophy that Grant traces back to his days at Vic.

“Defining my Vic experience comes down to three things. One, a sense of being on a mission of great import: to get a serious education and prove yourself. Two, a feeling of being part of a community with valued traditions; traditions that would help shape your life and take it in the right direction. Three, being with good people who are grounded and know how to have fun.”

Grant cast a wide net while a student at Vic. For him, involvement was essential: being active in sports, living in residence, running first-year orientation and joining a fraternity, for a start.

In recent years, Grant has played an integral role in shaping the student experience by serving on advisory councils and Victoria’s Board of Regents. “What I see more and more of now at Vic is greater awareness by everyone of the overall student experience,” he says. “Those experiences, though, are still built on the same three themes that steered me—powerful themes that allow people to grow, prosper and feel empowered to learn.”

Statement of Operations

For the year ended April 30, 2008
(in thousands of dollars)

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<td>Scholarship and bursaries</td>
<td>1,635</td>
<td>1,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of sales and services</td>
<td>1,272</td>
<td>1,231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>1,555</td>
<td>1,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealized loss on interest rate swap contract*</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealized loss on held-for-trading investments—marketable securities*</td>
<td>5,827</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$36,714</strong></td>
<td><strong>$30,682</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| (Deficiency) of revenues over expenses for the year | $(5,579) | $(206) |

* These losses are of a non-cash nature and are disclosed under the new Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants standards.

The Statement of Operations has been derived from the audited financial statements of Victoria University for the year ended April 30, 2008. A complete set of audited financial statements may be obtained through the Office of the Bursar.

Board of Regents Executive Committee 2007 – 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Paul Masterson Vic 8T6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murray Corlett Vic 6T1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul W. Gooch</td>
<td>David Silcox Vic 5T9</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Cook Vic 6T9</td>
<td>Mary Lou Tigert Vic 6T6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zinzi DeSilva Vic cT8</td>
<td>Robert Wong Vic 6T3</td>
</tr>
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<td>Michael Eben Vic 6T8</td>
<td>David Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Huyer Vic 8T1</td>
<td>Peter Wyatt Vic 6T6, Emm 8T3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Mills Vic 6T8</td>
<td>David Keeling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THANK YOU FOR THINKING OF VIC STUDENTS

Thanks to alumni support of the Annual Fund, Vic students will have the opportunity to benefit from a truly extraordinary undergraduate experience.

Your gift to the Annual Fund allows Vic to:

• Provide financial assistance to deserving students through more scholarships and bursaries
• Encourage clubs and activities, such as the Vic Chorus and the Victoria University Debating Union
• Finance the purchase of books and periodicals for the E.J. Pratt Library
• Support student services, including counselling in the Office of the Registrar

To make a gift to the Vic Annual Fund today, please send a cheque, payable to Victoria University, to the Victoria Alumni Office at 150 Charles St. West., Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1K9; make a gift by phone by calling 416-585-4500 or toll-free at 1-888-262-9775 or donate online by going to www.vicu.utoronto.ca/alumni.

Victoria’s Giving Recognition Circles

Chancellor’s Council/Presidents’ Circle – $1,827 and up
Principal’s Circle – $1,000 - $1,826
Cornerstone Circle – $500 - $999
Scarlet and Gold Circle – Up to $499
Come Back to Vic!
Spring Reunion 2009: May 29 – 31

There's no time like springtime to come back to the beautiful and inspiring Victoria College campus. Join your friends and classmates for a weekend celebration of your graduation from Vic.

Take part in a variety of Spring Reunion 2009 activities and events:

Friday, May 29
- Take a campus tour that includes the Isabel Bader Theatre, E.J. Pratt Library and Lester B. Pearson Garden for Peace and Understanding, and hear a special presentation on the new Goldring Student Centre.
- Attend the Principal’s Reception and Dinner

Saturday, May 30
- 60th anniversary luncheon for the Class of 4T9
- 55th anniversary luncheon for the Class of 5T4
- 50th anniversary reunion celebration for the Class of 5T9
- 25th anniversary party for the Class of 8T4

Sunday, May 31
- Attend the worship service in the Victoria College Chapel
- Join in the noon-hour Sunday Social

Look for your Vic Spring Reunion 2009 package in the mail, or visit www.alumni.utoronto.ca/victoria.

Reunion Giving 2009: A Matching Opportunity

You can help Vic students make the most of their undergraduate experience by supporting in-course scholarships and bursaries for international study. Your reunion donation will go twice as far with the dollar-for-dollar match provided by the James Morrow Regents Matching Fund.

Honoured Years
1934
1939
1944
1949
1954
1959
1964
1969
1974
1979
1984
Careers, Authors, Honours

David E. Gardner Vic 5T0 is the 2008 recipient of the Earle Grey Award, presented at the 23rd annual Gemini Awards for his outstanding body of work as an actor and significant contribution to the profile of Canadian television. He is currently writing a memoir entitled The Theatrical Adventures of a Shy Extrovert.

Rodrigo Gudino Vic 9T6 has had his film The Facts in the Case of Mister Hollow awarded Best Animated Short at Montreal’s FanTasia Film Festival, Spain’s Sitges International Film Festival and South Africa’s Horror Fest, as well as Best Short at the Puchon International Fantastic Film Festival in Korea.

Stephen Hegedus Vic 0T3 was the only Canadian finalist at Operalia 2008. The bass-baritone placed in the top six in the men’s category of Placido Domingo’s world opera competition, in which 40 people are invited to participate from an annual application pool of 800 to 1,000 male and female singers.

Shirley (Hong) Hoy Vic 7T3, former city manager for Toronto, is the recipient of the 2008 Lieutenant Governor’s Medal of Distinction in Public Administration. Each year the Institute of Public Administration of Canada awards the medal to an individual who has provided exemplary leadership in public administration in Ontario. Hoy was also named in the 100 Most Powerful Women in Canada list released by the Women’s Executive Network this past fall (see page 17).

Aarne Kartna Vic 7T1 participated in the Canadian National Slo-Pitch Championships in August 2008 in St. John’s, Nfld., as a member of the silver medal winning team. The Mississauga Legends. Kartna is now in his 29th year as a City of Toronto firefighter and credits playing football at Vic as a contributing factor to his successes.

Gary Kelly Vic 6T5 has published Lydia Sigourney: Selected Poetry and Prose (Broadview Press, August 2008), an anthology of work created by the most widely read and respected pre-Civil War American woman poet in the English-speaking world. Kelly has also published Newgate Narratives (Pickering & Chatto, September 2008), a five-volume set that brings together a representative body of Romantic and early Victorian crime literature about the notorious London prison.

Jean Little Vic 5T5 had her book The Sweetest One of All named to the Toronto Public Library’s First & Best 2008 booklist as one of the best books for children five years old and younger.

David Mackie Vic 8T2 has taken on the role of project representative for Rwanda with the humanitarian organization A Better World, in addition to working at Suncor as a geophysicist. Mackie and his wife, Joane, have travelled to Rwanda three times, returning from their last trip in 2008. View the blog of their third trip at www.a-better-world.ca.

Robert Oliphant Vic 7T8 was elected Oct. 14, 2008, to the House of Commons as the Liberal member of Parliament for the Toronto riding of Don Valley West in the 2008 federal election. He is the Liberal critic for Veterans Affairs.


Alan Skeoch Vic 6T1 has published Your Home on Native Land: The History of Land Claims in Canada (JackFruit Press, October 2008). A graphic novel told as a dialogue between a young boy and an elder, Your Home on Native Land describes the culture clash between Canada’s first and subsequent nations that led to the land claim disputes still being negotiated 200 years later.


Scott Walker Vic 7T1 and his wife, Anne Wootten, co-produced and co-wrote 150 Years in Golden Mountain, the story of the Chinese in Canada. Directed by Wootten, the multimedia pageant featured 70 performers and was presented in Victoria, B.C., in August 2008.
Marriages

Andrea (Rose) Jagla Vic 8T8 and Mark Jagla Vic 8T6 celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Aug. 19, 2008. The couple live in the village of Swansea, Ont.


Erin McDonald Vic 0T4 and Krzysztof Dudzic married on Sept. 29, 2007, in Toronto.

Births

To Steve Lamont Vic 7T7 and Julie Pak, a daughter, Maxine, in October 2008, in San Francisco, Calif.


To Susan Loizzo Vic 9T8 and Daniel Sapateiro, a son, Sebastian Gabriel, on Aug. 17, 2008, in Toronto.

To Kathryn Darinka Eva (Moon) Blackwell Vic 9T7 and James Blackwell, a son, Matthew James, on Aug. 19, 2008, in Orangeville, Ont.

To Angus Murray Vic 8T6 and Sarah Wiley, a son, Hugh Wiley Murray, on Sept. 30, 2008, in Victoria.

Canada’s Most Powerful Women for 2008

Five Victoria graduates were among those named in the 100 Most Powerful Women in Canada list released by the Women’s Executive Network:

Sonia A. (Ali) Baxendale Vic 8T4, senior executive vice-president, CIBC Retail Markets & Wealth Management, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce

Shirley (Hong) Hoy Vic 7T3, former city manager, City of Toronto

Shelly (Ruttan) Jamieson Vic 8T0, secretary of the Cabinet and head of the Ontario Public Service; clerk of the Executive Council, Government of Ontario

Neena (Ahlowalia) Kanwar Vic 7T9, co-president & CEO, KMH Cardiology and Diagnostic Centres

Jodi S. White Vic 6T9, president, Public Policy Forum

Former residents of North House reunited at the North House Alumni Dinner on Oct. 30, 2008, at the Albany Club in Toronto. Graduates from the 1940s through the 1960s were in attendance at the annual reunion, joined by their spouses, and widows of North House alumni.

MILESTONES
Alumni are invited to send information for inclusion in Milestones. For marriages please indicate, if applicable, whether you prefer to be known by your married or birth name. An obituary must accompany notices of death. 

Or e-mail your Milestones news to vic.report@utoronto.ca.
In Memoriam

Marion E. (Scott) Bailey Vic 3T1, in Toronto, Nov. 20, 2008.


Frank Spence Dingman Vic 3T5, class president, in Surrey, B.C., Nov. 20, 2008.


Harriett (Dunbar) Hanes Vic 3T9, in Toronto, July 8, 2008.


James W. Nethercott Vic 4T9, class social director, in Cincinnati, OH, Jan. 5, 2009.


Donald E. Tansley Vic 4T2, Emm 4T4, in Peterborough, Ont., Oct. 21, 2008.

Helen M. Woodliffe Vic 5T6, in Toronto, Nov. 29, 2008. Victoria College was suggested for memorial donations.

Grace Irwin
1907 – 2008

Grace Irwin Vic 2T9 was an inspirational force in the lives of all who knew her. For 38 years, she was a charismatic teacher of classics at Toronto’s Humberside Collegiate Institute. Irwin was also an amateur actress; alumni will remember her involvement in Vic’s Bob Revue Review in 1993, the Gilbert & Sullivan evening in 1997 and The Chemistry of Love for the opening of the Isabel Bader Theatre in 2001. In addition to her performances at Vic, Irwin remained active with her alma mater in many ways, serving for a time on the University’s Senate in the 1950s and regularly attending campus events. She was a novelist who published seven times, starting with Least of All Saints in 1959. Her last book, Compensation, went to print in 2003, though Irwin penned it at the age of 20. After retiring from teaching in 1969, Irwin served as pastor of Emmanuel Evangelical Church for many years. She was recognized with the Centennial Medal of Canada in 1968, an honorary doctor of sacred letters by Victoria University in 1991 and the establishment of the Grace Irwin Secondary School Teaching Award by the Ontario Classical Association in 2001.


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Signature __________________________ Expiry Date ____________

I enclose my cheque for $___________ made payable to Victoria University.

Please mail this form to the Victoria Alumni Office, 150 Charles St. W., Toronto ON M5S 1K9
Students at Victoria College have little doubt that they are living in a material world. They confront it through the consumerist environment of Toronto’s Bloor Street and in decisions they make every day about what to wear or how to take notes. What is relatively new, however, is that students at Victoria are studying the material expressions of past and present societies through courses in the academic sub-field of material culture studies.

Material culture studies refers to the study of physical objects that show signs of human influence. It may include art, decorative art, but also everyday items such as shaving equipment. Every object, placed in its proper context, has a story to tell about its society. Implicitly multidisciplinary since its founding in the 1960s, material culture studies has been especially popular among students of “public history,” who hope to pursue careers in museums and historic sites. In the last 10 years it has emerged as an academic star, which enables all sorts of scholars to study average people who left no memoirs or political documents.

In the Victoria College course “Introduction to Material Culture,” taught by Sarah Amato, students learn the theory and methodology of material culture. Students then select an object from everyday life and study it intensively. Recent projects have included the history of teapots, their mass production and the ways they encapsulate ideals of domesticity and comfort; the iconography of Colt 45 beer bottles and the ways suburban white youth drink this beer to appropriate a stylized version of Black American urban culture; and the ways the design, application and wearing of lipstick encapsulate notions of female empowerment and oppression. In my own course on Victorian British material culture, students may study soap advertisements, corsets, even the gardening designs of Gertrude Jekyll. Students in Adrienne Hood’s graduate class pick objects and mount their research on web sites they design. Our links at Victoria College with the Royal Ontario Museum and with the Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art make the possibilities especially exciting.

Students of material culture start with the object itself. What does it look like, feel like? How big is it? How heavy? What are the implications of any of these physical properties for use or ownership? Who made it and why? What did it cost? Who owned it? How was it marketed? How was it similar to other objects in its class? Does it show signs of use? Does it have decorative elements? How old is it? What was its original context? What values or ideas did it represent? These sorts of questions are a jumping off point, supported by written sources.

For example, my own current work revolves around over-the-counter drugs in Victorian England. While writing a book about Victorian advertising, I kept coming across incredibly graphic medicine advertisements. I looked at a collection of Victorian medicine bottles held at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Many were labelled “poison.” A little investigation revealed that there was no legislation in the 19th century to restrict the content of non-prescription drugs. Any medicine might contain dangerous and/or addictive ingredients, including opium, cocaine or chloroform. I began a major research project which took me to drug company archives, to the business records held at the National Archives, to medical journals and to court records. But it started with the medicines and their bottles.

One of the finest practitioners of material culture is Daniel Miller, anthropologist and professor of material culture at the University of London. I defy anyone not to be captivated by his recent book, The Comfort of Things. Miller and his team visited every house on a single south London street. In each living room, they asked questions about the objects around them, paying close attention to the objects and to what the householder did or did not say about the objects. The results are fascinating, from George, whose paucity of material things reveals a haunting absence of human companionship, to the Clarke family, whose cheery house, crammed to the rafters with trinkets, reflects deep family connections, an “ethnography of enchantment,” even an “artisanal form of love.”

Take a look at your own holiday acquisitions. What do they say about you? Material culture studies offers Victoria students one avenue to engage intellectually with an increasingly material world.

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Lori Loeb is an associate professor and the graduate co-ordinator in the department of history and a fellow of Victoria College. She is the author of Consuming Angels: Advertising and Victorian Women.
Alumni Calendar of Events

February 2 – March 7
Friends of Victoria University Library
Exhibition of paintings by Watermarks artists Wendy Bannerman, Alan Horne, Janet Ellis Kay and Bev Morgan, formerly known as The Franklin Four. E.J. Pratt Library, Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 1-5 p.m.

March 19
Friends of Victoria University Library
“Letter Perfect: A Brief History of Letter Forms and Their Uses in the Period of Transition from Manuscript to Print” with Martha Driver, Pace University. Presented in conjunction with the Toronto Centre for the Book. Alumni Hall, Old Vic, 4:15 p.m.

March 25
VWA “Marriage Rituals in Renaissance Italy: The Patterns, the Pomp, and the Problems,” an illustrated talk with Konrad Eisenbichler, professor of Renaissance studies. Alumni Hall, Old Vic, 2 p.m.

March 26
Distinguished Alumni Award Dinner
Honouring Nancy (Adams) Ruhnke Vic 7T3 (see page 3). Alumni Hall, Old Vic, 6 p.m. $45 per person.

March 27
Vic Chorus Spring Concert
An evening of choral music. Isabel Bader Theatre, 8 p.m.

April 21
Friends of Victoria University Library
Ninth Annual F. David Hoeniger Lecture with Peter Cockett, McMaster University, and the Queen’s Men Project, in collaboration with Records of Early English Drama. Alumni Hall, Old Vic, 7 p.m.

April 22
VWA Annual luncheon featuring guest speaker Meredith Chilton, an independent art historian, delivering “Delicious Dishes: The Impact of New Foods on Porcelain in the 18th century.” Alumni Hall, Old Vic, 11:30 a.m., $25 per person.

May 29 – 31
Spring Reunion 2009 For graduates from 1934 to 1984, with grad years ending in 4 or 9.

To register and/or for more information for alumni events, call 416-585-4500 or visit www.vicu.utoronto.ca.

To subscribe to Vic’s e-newsletter, e-mail vic.alumni@utoronto.ca

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To register visit www.alumni.utoronto.ca/victoria.