



**The
University
of British
Columbia**

Annual Report 2017-2018



We acknowledge that UBC's campuses are situated on the traditional, unceded territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and səliwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh), and on the territory of the Syilx Okanagan Nation.

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Message from the President

Welcome to the 2017/18 UBC Annual Report. In this document, we celebrate a year of inspiring achievements by UBC students, faculty, staff, alumni and supporters, who collectively are moving our university forward.

One of the most important initiatives of the past year was the launch of *Shaping UBC's Next Century*—our new strategic plan that will guide UBC's next century as a leading public university.

During the planning process, the UBC community, together with our partners, converged on three themes: inclusion, collaboration and innovation. As you'll see from the pages of this year's Annual Report, these themes are already in our DNA.

They are evident in our collective accomplishments over the past year—from our partnerships with industry and other partners in the federal Digital Technology Supercluster, to the launch of the largest student campaign in our history, to the opening of a new School of Biomedical Engineering that connects cutting-edge disciplines, to our ongoing efforts to improve educational opportunities for Indigenous students, education about Indigenous issues and collaborative research benefiting Indigenous communities.

These are just some of the examples you'll find in the Annual Report of how the UBC community is driving sustainable and positive change through research, teaching and learning, and engagement. I hope you will be a part of our journey.

—PROFESSOR SANTA J. ONO



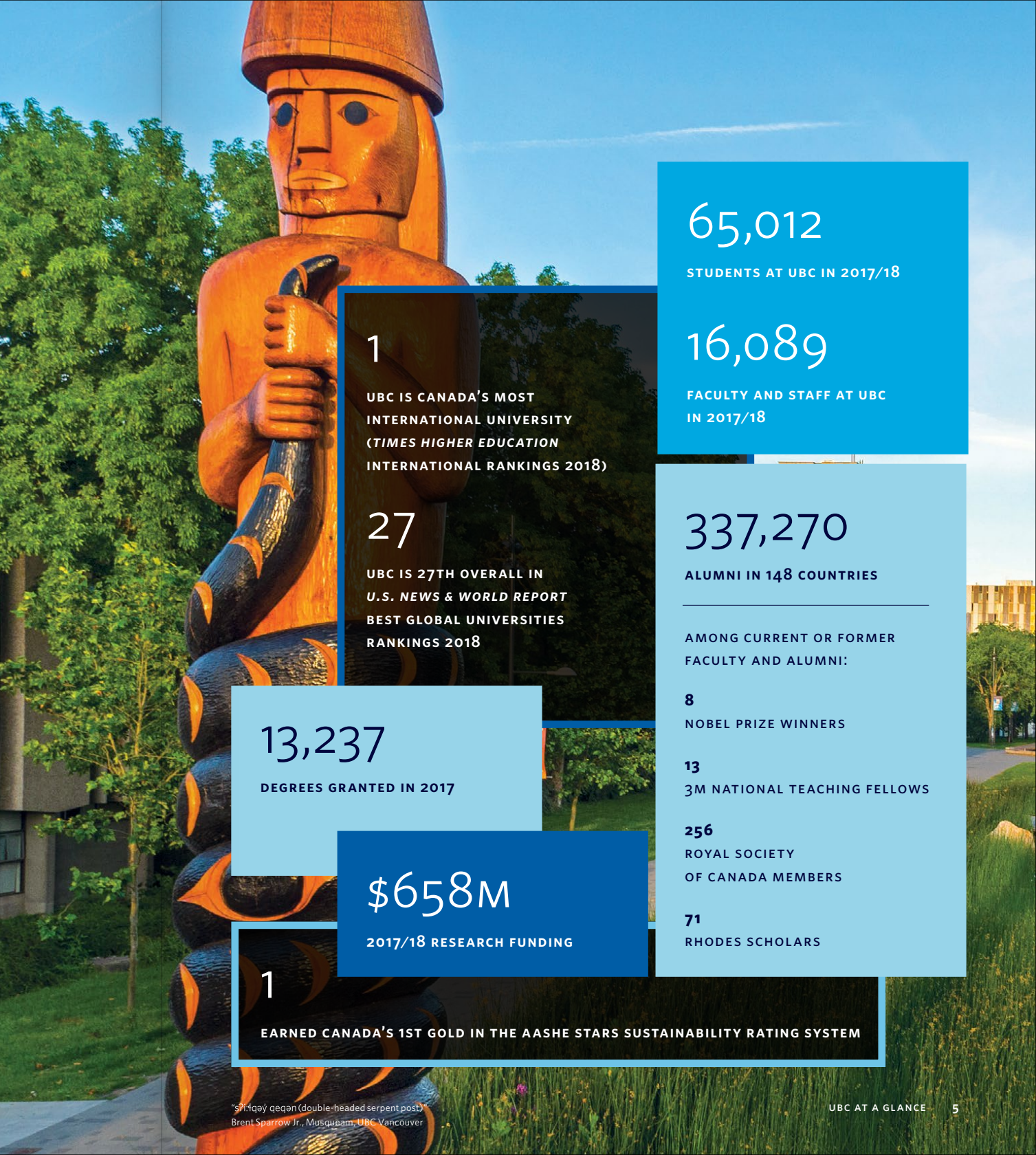
UBC at a glance 2017/18

UBC’s two main campuses are situated in Vancouver (UBC Vancouver) and in Kelowna in the Okanagan Valley (UBC Okanagan).

Other learning sites in Vancouver include UBC Robson Square, a vibrant learning centre in the heart of downtown; the UBC Learning Exchange, a community engagement initiative based in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside; and the Centre for Digital Media at the Great Northern Way Campus, located in Mount Pleasant, a groundbreaking partnership with four other local universities.

UBC also provides clinical education to Faculty of Medicine students at 75 health care facilities across British Columbia. In addition, UBC’s Asia Pacific Regional Office in Hong Kong and Liaison Office in New Delhi, India facilitate teaching and research partnerships and support alumni engagement.

UBC is home to 16 faculties, 18 schools and two colleges.



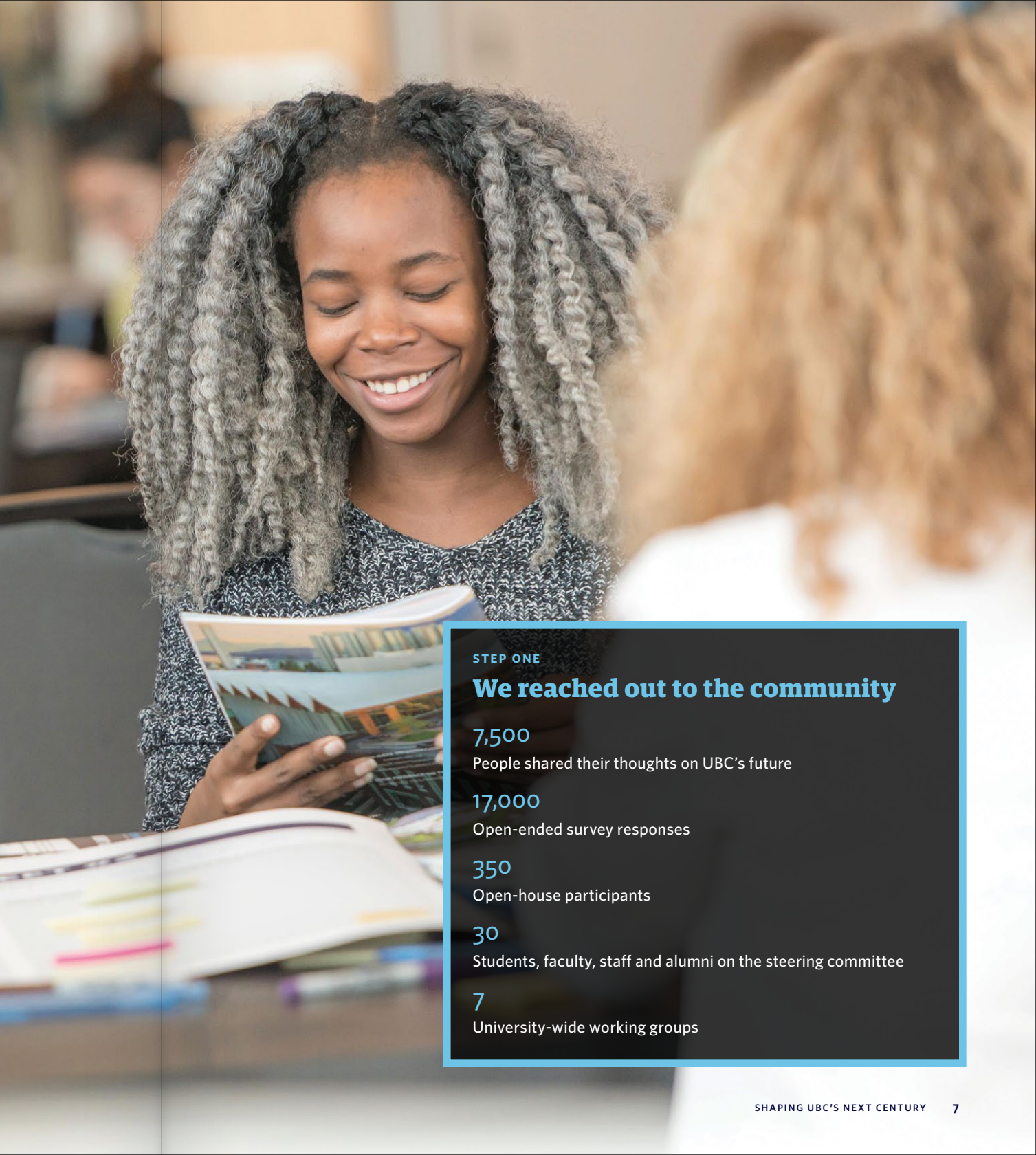
"S'itqay' qeqan (double-headed serpent post) by Brent Sparrow Jr., Musqueam, UBC Vancouver

How we built a roadmap to shape UBC's next century

Collaboration, inclusion and innovation: not only are these the building blocks of invention and discovery at UBC, they are the heart of our community. This past year, we learned just how passionate and creative our community is when we embarked on a strategic-planning process to build on the successes of UBC's first 102 years.

At a time when the challenges facing our global society are more complex than ever, we asked you, our students, faculty, staff, alumni and partners, a simple question: What defines our university and what's our role in the world?

Thousands shared their ideas and vision for UBC's future, through group discussions, open houses and online surveys. We used your input to inform our roadmap for the next 100 years: *Shaping UBC's Next Century*. Here's how we created it, together.



STEP ONE

We reached out to the community

7,500
People shared their thoughts on UBC's future

17,000
Open-ended survey responses

350
Open-house participants

30
Students, faculty, staff and alumni on the steering committee

7
University-wide working groups

STEP TWO

We listened to your perspectives

These are just a few of the thousands of responses we received:

"UBC should contribute to a better world — no issue or priority will be addressed by one discipline — must collaborate across disciplines to have an impact."

"Increasing diversity is both a desirable goal and a likely reality. We must learn how to create inclusive, welcoming learning and research environments for all, whilst not stifling debate, academic free speech or fleeing from difficult conversations."

"Increasing our research impact with government, business, NGOs and citizens — proving our relevance; improving community connections; innovating our learning environment."

"To work with community to tackle challenges that are raised by community. Like housing affordability and opportunities for youth employment."

STEP THREE

We honed in on themes

Strong consensus emerged around three themes:

- Collaboration
- Inclusion
- Innovation

Four core areas that underpin our work as a public institution also emerged:

- People and places
- Research excellence
- Transformative learning
- Local and global engagement

STEP FOUR

We defined a new vision for UBC

Inspiring people, ideas and actions for a better world

STEP FIVE

Turning vision into reality

After an intensive consultation period that lasted most of FY2017/18, including ongoing focused discussions with deans and other leadership, we took the draft plan back to the community to ensure it resonated with all. *Shaping UBC's Next Century* was endorsed by UBC's Board of Governors in April 2018.

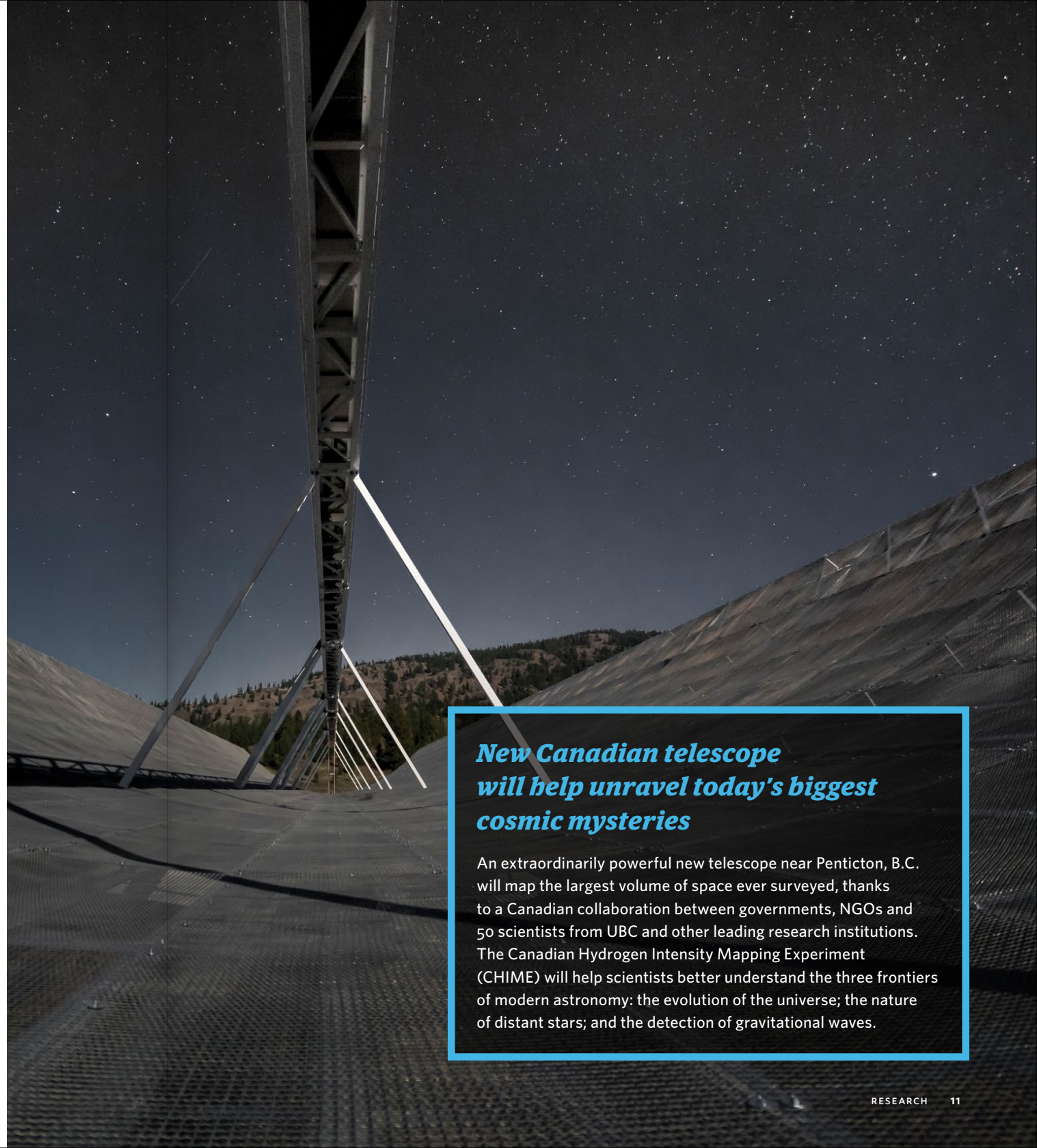
While this is the end of the story of how we created UBC's new vision, it's only the beginning of our work. We look forward to reporting back on our progress in next year's annual report.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE VISIT:
STRATEGICPLAN.UBC.CA

Research

UBC consistently ranks as one of the world's top research universities. Globally connected, we attract the highest-calibre research faculty and students and \$658 million in research funding each year.

We continue to work to increase the quality and reach of UBC's research and scholarship, and strive to be a world leader in knowledge exchange and mobilization. Our research has significant societal and economic benefits, including the development of new products and services, improved health outcomes, and contributions to public debate, culture and policy.



New Canadian telescope will help unravel today's biggest cosmic mysteries

An extraordinarily powerful new telescope near Penticton, B.C. will map the largest volume of space ever surveyed, thanks to a Canadian collaboration between governments, NGOs and 50 scientists from UBC and other leading research institutions. The Canadian Hydrogen Intensity Mapping Experiment (CHIME) will help scientists better understand the three frontiers of modern astronomy: the evolution of the universe; the nature of distant stars; and the detection of gravitational waves.

B.C.-born Supercluster will advance Canada's global advantage in digital technology

UBC is a founding member of the Digital Technology Supercluster, one of the funding recipients for the Government of Canada's Innovation Supercluster Initiative. This consortium includes some of the world's biggest names in health care, telecommunications, natural resources and computing, along with start-ups, researchers and post-secondary institutions — all working together to solve some of the most pressing productivity, health and sustainability challenges facing Canada and the world today.

Student researcher uses technology to preserve endangered language

David Lacho, a Master's student in linguistic anthropology, was recognized as UBC Okanagan's 2018 Master's Student Researcher of the Year for his work exploring how social media and augmented reality can help revitalize endangered languages. Lacho's research has taken him to First Nations communities across B.C., Quebec and Papua New Guinea, where he has developed innovative digital tools to help preserve Indigenous languages and cultures.

Parents and kids learn English better together

Immigrant and refugee families improve their English-language skills and maintain their first language when parents and kids learn together, according to researchers in the UBC Faculty of Education. The findings support bilingual family-literacy programs and help dispel the myth that first languages hinder children's ability to learn English.

**Using money to buy
time linked to
increased happiness**

A study led by researchers at UBC and Harvard Business School suggests that using money to buy 'free time' — for example, paying to delegate household chores such as cleaning and cooking — is linked to greater life satisfaction. Although buying time can serve as a buffer against the time pressures of daily life, the researchers also found that few people are doing it, even when they can afford it.

**High prevalence of fentanyl use
in Downtown Eastside signals limits
of substitution therapy**

A new study by the UBC Department of Psychiatry found that half of the participants in opioid-replacement therapy tested positive for fentanyl. As many of the participants have mental illnesses, the study highlights the need for comprehensive treatment that includes — but goes beyond — addressing drug use. During the study, the presence of the drug skyrocketed in people living in marginal housing in the Downtown Eastside, which raises concern for the level of risk in this community.

***New wildfire early-warning
system could prevent
spring blazes***

Researchers in the Faculty of Forestry at UBC have developed a new early-warning system to predict when and where human-caused wildfires are most likely to occur. Using satellite images of vegetation in the spring, the researchers can forecast where wildfire risks peak by tracking moisture in fuel sources such as leaves. The system could help focus stretched firefighting resources before the start of increasingly destructive fire seasons.

Exercising can protect the brain from Alzheimer's disease

Physical activity is associated with a reduced risk of Alzheimer's disease, says a panel of researchers and not-for-profit leaders led by UBC Okanagan's School of Health and Exercise Sciences. The researchers also confirm that regular physical activity may improve the performance of daily activities for people afflicted with Alzheimer's. Their conclusions may have significant implications for the 1.1 million Canadians affected directly or indirectly by dementia.



UBC technology helps buildings stand up to earthquakes – starting with Vancouver elementary school

A new seismic-resistant, fibre-reinforced concrete developed by researchers in UBC's Department of Civil Engineering saw its first real-life application as part of the seismic retrofit of a Vancouver elementary school. The research was funded by the UBC-hosted Canada-India Research Centre of Excellence (IC-IMPACTS), and the new construction material will be available to retrofit a school in Roorkee in Uttarakhand, a highly seismic area in northern India.

Breakthrough software enables animated characters to teach themselves to walk

Computer characters have learned, through trial and error, to walk along a narrow path without falling off and even to dribble a soccer ball towards a goal, thanks to a milestone algorithm developed by a UBC computer science professor. DeepLoco offers an alternative way to animate human movement in games and films, and points to a future in which robots could learn to navigate through their environment themselves.

Trying to resist the urge to splurge? Ditch your smartphone

You're more likely to indulge in guilty pleasures when shopping online via a smartphone touchscreen, rather than a desktop computer, according to new research from the Faculty of Management at UBC Okanagan. The study sheds new light into consumer behaviour when it comes to rapidly expanding sales technology.

Research Metrics

Total research funding

\$658M

2017/18 TOTAL ANNUAL RESEARCH FUNDING

UBC's success in attracting research funding reflects the quality of our research activity and our competitiveness as a world-leading university. It includes funding from government, industry and not-for-profit partners from across the globe.

In 2017/18, UBC appointed four Canada 150 Research Chairs and was allocated two new Canada Excellence Research Chairs, in Forest Bioproducts and Precision Cancer Drug Design. Our faculty members received international recognition through prestigious prizes and awards, such as the Breakthrough Prize and Volvo Environment Prize.

UBC expanded its Research Excellence Clusters initiative to provide support for 38 established and emerging research clusters taking a multidisciplinary approach to tackling complex challenges.

TOTAL ANNUAL RESEARCH FUNDING

2017/18	\$658M
2016/17	\$580M
2015/16	\$600M

Total tri-council funding

\$201M

2017/18 TRI-COUNCIL FUNDING

Canada's "tri-council" agency (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC) grants to support research are awarded through peer-reviewed competitions.

UBC's Support Programs to Advance Research Capacity (SPARC) office provides exceptional support for grant application development in coordination with faculty grants facilitators.

ANNUAL TRI-COUNCIL FUNDING

2017/18	\$201M
2016/17	\$204M
2015/16	\$203M

TRI-COUNCIL FUNDING HIGHLIGHTS

20%
UBC's success rate in the Fall 2017 Canadian Institutes of Health Research Project Grants
(compared to a national average of 15%)

80%
UBC's success rate in the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council Discovery Grants
(compared to a national average of 66%)

48%
UBC's success rate in the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Insight Grants
(compared to a national average of 47%)

**Institutional
field Normalized
Citation Impact**

95%

MORE CITED THAN THE GLOBAL AVERAGE

One measure of the positive effects of our research activity is the number of times UBC publications are cited. Our publications are highly cited — an indication of the contributions that UBC researchers are making in their fields.

**Articles with
international
co-authors**

56%

OF UBC RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS
INVOLVE INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

The growing number of UBC publications that had an international co-author over the past five years highlights our strength as a globally connected research university.

***Times Higher
Education
ranking, 2018***

34

***Academic Ranking
of World Universities
ranking, 2017***

31



Teaching and Learning

UBC is a place of learning for more than 65,000 undergraduate and graduate students across the 16 faculties, 18 schools and two colleges of our Vancouver and Okanagan campuses. Our faculty include Nobel Laureates, 3M National Teaching Fellows and Rhodes Scholars. A spirit of innovation combined with a collaborative culture creates a learning experience for our students that is both contemporary and challenging.

We are continuously redefining the student experience by providing innovative, experiential and evidence-based learning opportunities that equip UBC graduates for a rapidly changing world. A diverse community is central to that experience, and we work to recruit and support students who are representative of the full range of people who would like to call UBC home.



UBC launches \$100-million fundraising campaign for students

The Blue & Gold Campaign was launched with the goal of raising \$100 million in student support over three years — the largest campaign for students in UBC’s history. With the aim of removing financial barriers, nurturing achievement and recruiting academic excellence, student awards can not only change a student’s life, they are an investment in the future of our province and our global community.

Training health students on Indigenous culture

A new required course will help B.C.'s future doctors, nurses and other health practitioners provide better care to Indigenous peoples. The UBC Indigenous Cultural Safety course is a direct response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's calls to action and covers topics from Indigenous perspectives, including barriers to health-care access for Indigenous peoples.

School of Biomedical Engineering new hub for health innovation

The Faculty of Applied Science and the Faculty of Medicine jointly established the School of Biomedical Engineering (BME), a centre for interdisciplinary education, research and entrepreneurship in one of the fastest growing fields of study in North America. This collaborative initiative will strengthen UBC's ties to B.C.'s vibrant life-science and technology research communities to accelerate discoveries and improve health outcomes here in B.C. and around the world.

Vantage College reimagines language learning

This year, the first cohort of Vantage College students graduated from UBC. The college is the first of its kind in Canada, providing international students with integrated, discipline-specific English-language training during their first year at UBC. Vantage College students complete not only a foundational academic writing course, but also a content-linked language-enrichment course specifically related to the texts of their disciplinary courses.

UBC students can now study the human brain using holograms

A new, ground-breaking technology that allows students to walk around and explore a detailed hologram of the brain could be a game changer for neuroanatomy instruction at UBC. Researchers in the Faculty of Medicine teamed up with the Microsoft Garage to develop a new app for HoloLens, the first self-contained, holographic computer. The app—known as the Holographic Brain Project—represents the first of many HoloLens applications that will enhance education and research at UBC.

Celebrating 25 years of innovation in teaching and learning

More than 1,000 innovative education projects have taken off, thanks to funding from the Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund (TLEF) in Vancouver and the Aspire Learning and Teaching (ALT) Fund in the Okanagan. In 2017, \$2.5 million was awarded to support projects that are improving access for students with disabilities, engaging students to work across disciplines, improving learning using innovative technologies and resources, and helping students work with community organizations.

Advancing reconciliation through Indigenous education

A new Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) launched by the UBC Faculty of Education helps educators to support all learners in developing their knowledge and understanding of Indigenous people’s worldviews and cultures within equitable and inclusive learning spaces. More than 8,000 people participated in the first offering of Reconciliation Through Indigenous Education, a course that emphasizes changing structures and ideologies to strengthen relationships with Indigenous peoples, including improving educational outcomes.

**Open textbooks
save students up
to \$2.2 million**

We're expanding the use of freely accessible textbooks and resources at UBC—just one of the ways we're keeping UBC affordable for our students and providing customized course content. This year, more than 14,000 students took courses that used only open resources and saved up to \$2.2 million.

**Emerging Media Lab
explores new forms
of media in education**

Visitors to the Emerging Media Lab can see a blue whale materialize in front of their eyes, bat asteroids out of the way to get a better view of the moon, or walk around a Vincent van Gogh painting. This campus-wide collaboration is making the latest technologies accessible to UBC students, staff and the public, all with the goal of exploring the educational potential of new forms of media such as virtual reality and augmented reality.

***Student health and wellbeing
focus of new course***

A new course offered at UBC Okanagan helps first-year students make the transition to university with a broad-based introduction to wellbeing and health that includes physiology, nutrition, mental health, sleep and mindfulness. Developed over the past year by the School of Health and Exercise Sciences, HEAL 100 offers an in-depth look at health studies with an emphasis on student health — focusing on education and research, and their effect on a variety of student health issues.

Teaching and Learning Metrics

Student satisfaction

93%

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SATISFACTION AT UBC VANCOUVER
(SAME RESULT AS 2015/16)

94%

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SATISFACTION AT UBC OKANAGAN
(UP FROM 89% IN 2015/16)

We continue to take bold steps to redefine the undergraduate learning experience at UBC; our students' satisfaction with their overall academic experiences speaks volumes about the results. Over the last five years, the percentage of favourable responses to an Undergraduate Experience Survey question assessing satisfaction levels has remained remarkably high at both of our campuses.

Aboriginal student enrolment

1,720

ABORIGINAL UNDERGRADUATE
AND GRADUATE STUDENTS AND
MEDICAL RESIDENTS AT UBC

2.9%

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO ARE
ABORIGINAL AT UBC VANCOUVER
(UP FROM 2.6% IN 2016/17)

6.9%

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO ARE
ABORIGINAL AT UBC OKANAGAN
(UP FROM 5.9% IN 2016/17)

We are committed to addressing systemic challenges for domestic Aboriginal students seeking to obtain post-secondary education, and we are developing strategies at the central and faculty levels to ensure that qualified First Nations, Métis and Inuit students have clear pathways to admission to UBC programs.

In addition to policies that support direct admission in many faculties for Aboriginal students, the UBC-Langara Aboriginal Transfer Program has been expanded to include transfer admissions to more faculties at our Vancouver campus, and programming through Aboriginal Access Studies at UBC Okanagan continues to grow.

International
student enrolment

26.3%

OF STUDENTS ON THE VANCOUVER
CAMPUS ARE INTERNATIONAL
(UP FROM 24.3% IN 2016/17)

16.2%

OF STUDENTS ON THE OKANAGAN
CAMPUS ARE INTERNATIONAL
(UP FROM 14.4% IN 2016/17)

As North America's most international university,* UBC prepares our graduates for success in today's global society. UBC is home to 16,158 international undergraduate and graduate students from more than 160 countries, who together contribute to a global learning environment. We continue to invest in initiatives to attract top students from countries around the world.

**Times Higher Education*

Domestic student
enrolment

46,465

GOVERNMENT-FUNDED FTES
110% OF FTE TARGET

The B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training sets targets for, and funds, domestic student full-time equivalents (FTEs), a measure of the course-load activity of the students enrolled. UBC consistently exceeds its enrolment targets for domestic students.



Student wellbeing

82%

OF STUDENTS ON THE VANCOUVER
CAMPUS FEEL THEY ARE COPING WELL
(DOWN FROM 84% IN 2015/16)

87%

OF STUDENTS ON THE OKANAGAN
CAMPUS FEEL THEY ARE COPING WELL
(DOWN FROM 89% IN 2015/16)

The wellbeing of our community members is a priority at UBC. Across portfolios and departments, UBC students, faculty, researchers and staff are recognizing the role wellbeing plays in fostering excellence. We are taking a holistic approach to physical, mental and social health on our campuses.

The Undergraduate Experiences Survey tracks how students feel they are coping with life, giving UBC a measure of the demands on students and the performance of our student-support services. It also alerts us to mental wellbeing issues such as stress, anxiety and depression, allowing us to increase supports as needed.

Strategic course
and program
transformation

157

NUMBER OF COURSES TRANSFORMED AT
UBC VANCOUVER, REACHING 22,804
STUDENTS (13,406 UNIQUE STUDENTS)

15

NUMBER OF COURSES TRANSFORMED AT
UBC OKANAGAN, REACHING 4,184
STUDENTS (2,344 UNIQUE STUDENTS)

UBC encourages faculty members to use evidence-based and technology-enabled teaching practices to improve the student-learning experience.

This work is supported through the Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund (TLEF) on the Vancouver campus and through the Aspire Learning and Teaching (ALT) Fund on the Okanagan campus.

The number of courses affected fluctuates year-over-year based on the range of projects and the overall class size of some of the sections funded each year.

Courses with
significant
Indigenous content

195

TOTAL NUMBER OF COURSES WITH
SIGNIFICANT INDIGENOUS CONTENT

UBC is working to ensure our curriculum is responsive to the concerns of Indigenous people and that it considers issues of importance. An understanding of Indigenous history—a full and accurate understanding of Canadian history—must be part of the education of all students, whatever their field of study.

This measure tracks courses at UBC that incorporate Indigenous issues and perspectives and help prepare students to interact with Indigenous communities.

NUMBER OF COURSES WITH SIGNIFICANT
INDIGENOUS CONTENT (BOTH CAMPUSES)

2017/18	195
2016/17	197
2015/16	180



Undergraduate
students going on
international
exchanges

1,363

NUMBER OF UBC VANCOUVER
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS WHO
PARTICIPATED IN AN INTERNATIONAL
EXPERIENCE WITH GO GLOBAL IN 2017/18

175

NUMBER OF UBC OKANAGAN
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS WHO
PARTICIPATED IN AN INTERNATIONAL
EXPERIENCE WITH GO GLOBAL IN 2017/18

Partnered with more than 200 universities and institutions worldwide, Go Global exchange programs help students venture out into the world to meet people, build skills and gain international perspectives on their learning.

This measure tracks the number of undergraduate students who have chosen to participate in an exchange through Go Global. UBC will continue to support our students to engage in international exchange opportunities around the world.

Experiential learning

75%

OF UBC VANCOUVER UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN ENRICHED
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
(SAME RESULT AS 2015/16)*

65%

OF UBC OKANAGAN UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN ENRICHED
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
(UP FROM 62% IN 2015/16)*

*BASED ON GRADUATING UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENTS' RESPONSES TO THE
UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENCE SURVEY

At UBC, university isn't just about learning in the classroom environment. We collaborate with community, industry, government and university partners to provide a variety of enriching, transformative learning experiences to our students.

Most of our students participate in community-service learning, research, internships, mentorships, international exchanges or co-ops, and we're integrating experiential learning opportunities into a wider range of programs to make them more accessible to students than ever. The benefits are clear: students' satisfaction with their overall experience and confidence in their future grow exponentially when they apply their learning to tangible real-world experiences.

Campus and Community Engagement

We are committed to engaging ethically with local and global communities to advance a stronger and more equitable society. Collaboration with diverse communities is core to our mission and foundational to excellent teaching, learning and research.

We value the open exchange of ideas. Our combined experiences, expertise and knowledge are needed to address the salient questions of our time.

We recognize that past educational practices have worked to the detriment of Indigenous peoples. We are committed to working together to advance understandings of Indigenous perspectives and histories and respond to community priorities.

We model our values. Our campuses are living laboratories—places to explore and exemplify all aspects of economic, environmental and social sustainability.

People are at the heart of UBC. Our contributions to society depend on respectful relationships between students, faculty, staff, alumni and communities across B.C., Canada and the world.



Reconciliation Pole goes up at UBC

Thousands participated in the installation of a 17-metre-tall Reconciliation Pole at UBC that represents the story of generations of children who were damaged by Canada's Indian residential school system. The pole was carved by Haida master carver and Hereditary Chief 7idansuu (Edenshaw) James Hart. It is associated with the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre, which opened in 2018 with a mission to develop an understanding of the history and lasting effects of the schools.

UBC engineers use tech to tackle rental shortage

Entrepreneur and recent UBC graduate Cailan Libby partnered with the UBC Okanagan School of Engineering on a new venture focused on addressing the difficulties in renting, including record low-vacancy rates. Helping people find their best matches in the rental market, Happipad.com is a novel online service that allows landlords and renters to search, advertise, screen potential matches, form rental contracts and post reviews — all in one place.

Supporting faculty and staff wellbeing through partnership

Recognized as an innovative model, the collaboration between UBC Human Resources, the UBC Pharmacists Clinic and pharmacy students continues to support the wellbeing of UBC's 15,000-plus faculty and staff. This year the groups partnered to offer more than 200 diabetes awareness assessments at the UBC Vancouver campus and Vancouver General Hospital, helping participants understand their own diabetes risk and encouraging them to seek follow-up health care when appropriate.

UBC Thunderbirds men's volleyball captures first national title in 35 years

UBC men's volleyball ended a 35-year drought at the TELUS 2018 Men's Volleyball Championship, bringing home the Tantramar Trophy to proud classmates, coaches, parents and alumni. The Thunderbirds played at peak efficiency throughout the tournament in dropping just a single set, culminating with a 3-0 sweep to defeat the two-time defending U SPORTS national champion and cross-town rival Trinity Western Spartans.

UBC hosts 50th anniversary of the Order of Canada

In November 2017, UBC hosted a B.C. celebration of the Order of Canada's 50th anniversary. The day-long series of events included workshops on building a better Canada and public talks and performances by Order of Canada recipients David Suzuki, Shelagh Rogers, Sophie Pierre, Robert Silverman, Trevor Linden and Wade Davis.

Launch of Policy School advances innovation in global affairs and public policy

The newly established UBC School of Public Policy and Global Affairs (SPPGA) is a centre for innovation, research and learning in global affairs and public policy. SPPGA brings together a network of accomplished scholars from both campuses, students, the community, governments and business leaders to contribute to solving problems of local importance and global consequence.

A full house for Prime Minister Trudeau's Town Hall at UBC Okanagan

UBC's Okanagan campus had an exciting start to the academic year when more than 2,500 people attended a town hall event hosted by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. This was the first visit to UBC as prime minister for Trudeau—a UBC alumnus (BEd '98)—and he engaged with the audience of UBC students, faculty, staff and members of the local Okanagan community on a range of issues.

Making research accessible

UBC researchers have long studied the Downtown Eastside, one of Canada's most complex inner-city neighbourhoods. But residents and community organizations have not always had access to those research findings. The Making Research Accessible initiative, a collaboration between the UBC Learning Exchange and UBC Library, was created to provide an open-access repository of research that has been done on and in the Downtown Eastside.

UBC convenes global sustainability leaders

UBC and the City of Vancouver co-hosted the 2017 International Sustainable Campus Network conference in June 2017. More than 140 delegates from 80 universities across 30 countries gathered at UBC to explore how city/campus collaborations can advance climate action and sustainability.

Alumni Association celebrates 100 years

A small group of UBC graduates formed our first cohort of alumni way back on May 4, 1917. Today, UBC's global network of alumni is more than 337,000 strong and spans 148 countries. The Alumni Association marked its 100th year by making 100,000 connections with UBC's alumni community.



Campus and Community Engagement Metrics

Contracts and agreements with governments and non-profits

885

CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS WITH GOVERNMENTS AND NON-PROFIT PARTNERS IN FY2017

\$82M

TOTAL FUNDING (11% DECREASE FROM FY2016)

Industry-sponsored research collaborations

1,375

INDUSTRY-SPONSORED RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS IN FY2017

\$61M

TOTAL FUNDING (4.3% INCREASE FROM FY2016)

Knowledge sharing and public exchanges

300+ (UBC-V)
180+ (UBC-O)

NUMBER OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

UBC's public dialogue and knowledge-sharing events attract thousands of participants every year. The Distinguished Speaker Series at our Okanagan campus and The Wall Exchange, presented by the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies in Vancouver, are two of UBC's large public dialogue initiatives. Tracking participation in these two events offers an illustrative example of how UBC provides open spaces for dialogue to foster public understanding of societal issues. UBC is developing institutional indicators of community engagement.

Engaged alumni

70,007

ALUMNI ENGAGED WITH UBC (UP 7% FROM 2016/17)

A record number of alumni engaged with UBC in 2017/18, taking advantage of an ever-expanding selection of in-person and online programs designed to enhance their lives and careers.

The *alumni UBC* five-year strategic plan *Connecting Forward* has been in operation for a year, and we are seeing the results of a two-fold approach that seeks to broaden engagement among our more than 337,000 members, as well as increase the number of key alumni involved at a deeper level in important advocacy and advisory roles.

Workplace Experiences Survey

71%

OF FACULTY WOULD RECOMMEND UBC
TO A FRIEND AS A GOOD PLACE TO WORK
(UP FROM 62% IN 2014)

75%*

OF FACULTY AND STAFF JOINED UBC FOR
ITS REPUTATION (UP FROM 73% IN 2014)

*REPRESENTS A HIGH POINT FOR THE WES
ENTRANCE SURVEY

FACULTY AND STAFF
VOLUNTARY TURNOVER
(ALL EMPLOYEES, CALENDAR YEAR)

2017	6.3%
2016	6.0%
2015	6.8%

Together, UBC's 15,000-plus employees have helped to create one of the world's leading academic institutions and one of Canada's best places to work.

Our voluntary turnover rate, and the number of faculty and staff who would recommend UBC as a good place to work, provide us with a baseline against which to measure our efforts to provide a fulfilling work environment that reflects our commitments to diversity and wellbeing.

While the voluntary turnover rate and scores on the Workplace Experiences Survey perform well against external benchmarks, we continue to focus on opportunities to improve and enhance the faculty and staff experience. Through the Focus on People framework, we have invested in priorities that include a refreshed orientation and on-boarding program, recognition programs, health and wellbeing initiatives and leadership development programs.

Student residences

18

TOTAL NUMBER OF RESIDENT
COMMUNITIES

13,476

TOTAL NUMBER OF BEDS IN ON-CAMPUS
STUDENT HOUSING (AN INCREASE OF
758 BEDS IN 2017)

354

NUMBER OF NEW BEDS IN ĊƏSNA?ƏM
HOUSE AT TOTEM PARK

In September 2017, UBC Student Housing and Hospitality Services opened Ċəsna?əm House, the third student residence house at Totem Park with a name officially gifted by the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) First Nation. The first houses with gifted xʷməθkʷəy̓əm names, həmłəsəm and qələxən, opened in 2011.

404

NUMBER OF NEW BEDS IN BROCK
COMMONS TALLWOOD HOUSE

2

AWARDS FOR UBC STUDENT RESIDENCES

In 2017, UBC student residence buildings and facilities won two major awards. Ponderosa Commons student residence won a Best of Canada award in the 2017 Canadian Interiors' Best of Canada Design Competition. Open Kitchen, the residence dining facility at Orchard Commons student residence, won an Award of Excellence from the Interior Designers Institute of British Columbia.

Greenhouse Gas
(GHG) emissions

29%

UBC OKANAGAN (2017): REDUCTION IN
GHG EMISSIONS PER STUDENT FTE
SINCE 2007
(DUE TO THE AVAILABILITY OF DATA,
2007 BASELINE INCLUDES BUILDINGS'
EMISSIONS ONLY)

30%

UBC VANCOUVER (2017): ABSOLUTE
REDUCTION IN GHG EMISSIONS
SINCE 2007

UBC has been a global leader in sustainability for two decades, including opening Canada's first sustainability office in 1997 and meeting its Kyoto target for emissions reductions in 2007. We have aggressively reduced our GHG emissions in recent years, with transit improvements and clean-energy projects on the Okanagan campus and a bio-energy facility on the Vancouver campus. We've also replaced our Vancouver campus's aging heating infrastructure with an efficient hot-water system that will help us achieve our commitment to further reduce GHG emissions 67 per cent by 2020 and 100 per cent by 2050, from 2007 levels.

Local produce
on-campus

\$79,327

TOTAL SPENT ON LOCAL, SMALL-SCALE
FARM PRODUCE FOR ON-CAMPUS FOOD
SERVICES (FY2017)

300%

INCREASE IN SPENDING FROM FY2016



Sharing our stories

118,000

NUMBER OF UBC-RELATED
STORIES SHARED

249

NUMBER OF OP-EDS BY UBC SCHOLARS

54

NUMBER OF SPEECHES BY PRESIDENT ONO
TO OFF-CAMPUS AUDIENCES

9%

INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF SOCIAL
MEDIA FOLLOWERS FROM 2016

668,000

VIEWS FOR UBC NEWS VIDEOS SHARED
THROUGH UBC SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS

Each year UBC shares its stories with hundreds of thousands of viewers and readers. Through videos, articles, speeches and social media, UBC reaches a broad public audience to help build awareness of what the university is doing, establish UBC faculty as trusted experts and shape the reputation of the university as a global leader in research, teaching and learning.

Financial Highlights

UBC is working to remain nimble in the face of constant changes across the educational and economic landscapes.

Limited public funding, fierce competition for research dollars and the rapid growth of free digital education mean we must diversify our revenue sources and sustainably manage our assets.

Domestic student tuition represents 13 per cent of our operating revenue, yet our enrolment of Canadian students consistently exceeds provincial targets. Increased revenue from new program offerings and international student tuition has allowed us to diversify and invest in financial aid, domestic students and a world-class teaching environment for all learners.

The growth of our endowment—up to \$2.18 billion in 2017/18—also plays an important role in UBC’s long-term financial sustainability, giving us the resources to increase our excellence and impact.

We continue to explore ways to enhance operational processes and invest strategically to advance our academic strategy.

Taken together, these financial moves, along with prudent management, have helped us balance our budget for the ninth year in a row and earn a credit rating from Standard & Poor’s of AA+.

The following is a snapshot of our efforts this year to ensure we are delivering top-tier education and world-changing research well into the future.



Excellence Fund

\$24.2M

2017-2018 FUNDING AVAILABLE

The UBC Excellence Fund was established in February 2016 to provide significant new resources to advance academic excellence and strengthen UBC in the years to come. The fund dedicates a significant portion of our annual revenue to attracting and retaining exceptional faculty, students and staff; fostering innovative research; and creating a world-class learning experience.

BREAKDOWN

- \$6M**
Building and supporting world-class research infrastructure to enable innovative, cutting-edge research
- \$2M**
Recruiting and retaining exemplary faculty members
- \$2.5M**
Recruiting and retaining exemplary students and staff; providing an excellent student learning experience for domestic and international students at the graduate and undergraduate levels, both inside and outside the classroom
- \$13.7M**
Unspent committed funds

Consolidated revenue

\$2.562B

2017-2018 TOTAL CONSOLIDATED REVENUES

REVENUE CATEGORY

- 1 Core academic funding (\$614M)
- 2 Tuition and student fees (\$725M)
Student tuition and fees, comprising domestic students, international students, graduate students and professional programs on campus
- 3 Sales and services (\$400M)
Revenue from services provided on campus, including student housing, food services, the bookstore, parking and faculty revenues
- 4 Research (\$406M)
Contributions from granting agencies and corporations for the University's research, recognized as revenue to the extent expenses are incurred
- 5 Other revenue (\$335M)
Includes revenue recognized from specific purpose activities and awards, and revenue earned from UBC's subsidiaries
- 6 Investment income (\$82M)

1 \$614M

2 \$725M

3 \$400M

4 \$406M

5 \$335M

6 \$82M

Consolidated expenses

\$2.441B

2017-2018 TOTAL CONSOLIDATED EXPENSES

EXPENSE CATEGORY

- A Learning (\$1,201M)
Includes expenses related to all direct educational delivery within the institution and activities that directly support the academic functions of the institution
- B Research (\$496M)
Includes research activities specifically funded by contracts and/or grants from external organizations and undertaken within the institution to produce research outcomes
- C Facilities (\$283M)
Includes all capital-asset-related expenditures for the operation of the University
- D Students (\$319M)
Includes activities that directly support the individual students or groups of students
- E Community engagement (\$60M)
Includes activities that support the relationship between the University and the community
- F Administration (\$82M)
Includes activities that support the institution as a whole, such as executive management, governance committees, the Board and Senate, corporate finance, human resources, purchasing, and any other centralized institution-wide general administrative activities

A \$1,201M

B \$496M

C \$283M

D \$319M

E \$60M

F \$82M

Endowment

\$2.182B

2017-2018 ENDOWMENT FUNDS

UBC’s endowment fund contributes to UBC’s mission of academic excellence by providing continued financial support for research and teaching. Funds from donors and land-lease revenues are invested and managed prudently for future generations. Since 2012, net revenue from land development has been used to finance student housing.

BREAKDOWN

- A Specific purpose (\$1,110M)
Supports arts, athletics, sciences, student learning, medical and other research, as well as many other specific purposes
- B Land-lease proceeds endowment funds (\$670M)
Supports academic excellence, student housing projects, and UBC’s housing assistance program to facilitate faculty recruitment
- C Awards (\$402M)
Supports UBC student scholarships and bursaries in athletics, fine arts, music, medicine and other disciplines

A \$1,110M

B \$670M

C \$402M



Capital expenditures

\$324M

2017-2018 TOTAL ADDITIONS

BREAKDOWN

- 1 Major building projects (\$92M)
Major building projects in 2017/18 include Gage South Student Residence, Tallwood House Student Residence P1, Totem Park Student Residence In-Fill 2, new baseball stadium, new aquatic centre, Whitecaps FC National Soccer Development Centre, new transit terminal, Allan McGavin Sports Medicine Clinic, Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre, and the UBC Okanagan Teaching and Learning Centre
- 2 Building renovations/additions (\$115M)
- 3 Equipment and furnishings (\$88M)
- 4 Library books (\$16M)
- 5 Capital infrastructure (\$13M)

1 \$92M

2 \$115M

3 \$88M

4 \$16M

5 \$13M

Residence

13,474

2018 TOTAL NUMBER OF RESIDENCE BEDS

BREAKDOWN

- A Residence beds on UBC Vancouver campus (11,796)
- B Residence beds on UBC Okanagan campus (1,678)

A 11,796

B 1,678

PHOTOGRAPHY

- C Haley Seven Deers, an undergraduate student with the Faculty of Education at UBC Okanagan (*Don Erhardt*)
- 1 UBC Okanagan campus (*Hover Collective*)
- 2 Professor Santa Ono (*Paul Joseph*)
- 5 "sʔi:qəy' qeqən (double-headed serpent post)" Brent Sparrow Jr., Musqueam, UBC Vancouver (*Hover Collective*)
- 7 Strategic Plan Open House participant (*Paul Joseph*)
- 9 Professor Andrew Szeri, provost and vice-president academic for UBC Vancouver, participates at a Strategic Plan Open House (*Paul Joseph*)
- 11 Canadian Hydrogen Intensity Mapping Experiment (CHIME) telescope (*Photo courtesy of CHIME*)
- 12 Student at UBC Okanagan (*Paul Joseph*)
- 15 Wildfire (*Stock*)
- 16 Participant at UBC BodyWorks community outreach program (*Paul Joseph*)
- 18 Researcher at TRIUMF (*Paul Joseph*)
- 21 Students at UBC Malcolm Knapp Research Forest (*Paul Joseph*)
- 23 Haley Seven Deers, an undergraduate student with the Faculty of Education at UBC Okanagan (*Don Erhardt*)
- 24 Student members of the Biomedical Engineering Student Team (BEST) (*Paul Joseph*)
- 27 Student at the Reconciliation Through Education/Orange Shirt Day event at UBC Vancouver (*Paul Joseph*)
- 29 Undergraduate students in class (*Paul Joseph*)
- 30 Undergraduate students in class (*Paul Joseph*)
- 33 Graduate students in class (*Paul Joseph*)
- 34 Students at UBC Okanagan (*Martin Dee*)
- 37 Reconciliation Pole Installation event (*Paul Joseph*)
- 38 Cailan Libby, UBC Okanagan graduate (*Don Erhardt*)
- 40 Order of Canada event at UBC Vancouver (*Paul Joseph*)
- 43 Participants at *alumni UBC* event at the Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre (*V. Saran Photo*)
- 44 Undergraduate students at UBC Vancouver (*Paul Joseph*)
- 46 UBC Vancouver campus (*Hover Collective*)
- 49 Kale harvesting at UBC Farm (*Martin Dee*)
- 51 UBC Vancouver campus (*Hover Collective*)
- 53 UBC Okanagan campus (*Hover Collective*)
- 54 Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre, UBC Vancouver (*Paul Joseph*)
- 56 UBC Vancouver campus (*Hover Collective*)
- BC Regan Oey, second-year student studying cognitive systems at UBC Vancouver (*Martin Dee*)

DIGITAL VERSION

A PDF of the annual report can be downloaded from annualreport.ubc.ca



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA