MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

It is my honour and pleasure to contribute some thoughts to the Arts Co-op Program’s Annual Report in this, UBC’s Centennial Anniversary Year! We have much to be grateful for: UBC-Vancouver is one of the most beautiful campuses in the world and we’re located in one of the world’s most livable and most global cities, with innumerable cultural events on campus and off. We’re Canada’s most global faculty of arts at one of Canada’s two most research-intensive universities. We celebrate that UBC is located on the traditional and ancestral territory of the Musqueam people.

And we celebrate the success of another record number of Arts students who completed co-op work terms this past year, with employers across Canada and around the world. My thanks to our co-op students for being such good ambassadors for our Faculty, and to our employers, many of whom hire regularly from our program, providing invaluable opportunities for our students to learn outside the classroom.

I have no doubt that UBC’s centennial year will generate considerable thought and reflection on what our next 100 years might look like. The Faculty of Arts was a founding unit of UBC and is the largest Faculty at our university. I invite you to imagine what a Faculty of Arts can be in the next 100 years—how will it serve our students, the Province and Canada? What will Arts degrees look like 100 years from now? What role will experiential learning, and specifically co-operative education, play in our students’ learning? How can Arts degrees continue to evolve to ensure we are preparing the leaders the 21st century needs?

These questions and others will be debated well into our next century as we continually strive towards excellence in ensuring the value of an Arts degree.

Gage Averill
Dean, Faculty of Arts
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

For the past year I’ve had the honour of serving the Canadian Association for Co-operative Education as President, a role which has helped me appreciate more deeply the work that the more than 580 members who make up the Association undertake each year in co-op programs from coast to coast. In this role I recently attended the biannual conference of the World Co-operative and Work Integrated Education Association in Kyoto, Japan, meeting colleagues from almost every continent, all at various stages of development with their co-operative education programs. Countries seeking to develop their co-op infrastructure—like Japan, Namibia, and South Africa—believe that through the co-op model they will better educate the next generation of leaders in their countries to deal with the challenges ahead.

The many student and alumni profiles in this annual report demonstrate, through the specific example of the UBC Arts Co-op Program, the value of this model. 2014/15 was another record year for us, with 369 undergraduates and 77 graduate students completing co-op terms, the largest number in our Program’s history. We are grateful to our employer partners who combined to pay $3,753,240 in UBC Arts Co-op student salaries, a remarkable investment of money and time in our students, and in the next generation of leaders in this country.

I’m particularly pleased to see UBC alumni playing such a significant role in supporting our co-op program, with 25% of all of the job postings we received this year coming from UBC alumni. Thank you for your commitment to supporting those who are following in your footsteps!

I hope you will take time to read about the transformational experiences some of our students had this year in workplaces as diverse as Environment Canada, the US Consulate, the Canadian Institute of Business Technology (China), the Canadian Embassy in Bangkok, BGC Engineering, and Teck Resources Ltd. And as we begin UBC’s Centenary year, here’s to continued success with Hire Education!

I welcome comments and feedback anytime at julie.walchli@ubc.ca or 604.827.5194.

Julie Walchli
Director, Faculty of Arts Co-operative Education Program
ARTS CO-OP PROGRAM

MISSION STATEMENT

The UBC Arts Co-op Program offers students enriched educational experiences for personal and professional growth by working with diverse community partners and sectors to provide transformative workplace learning.

The UBC Arts Co-op Program aims to:

- Provide students with the support and opportunities for career exploration, and diversification of experience and skill sets
- Develop skilled professionals who can strengthen the workforce in new and innovative ways
- Enable students to be engaged citizens who contribute positively to a global society
- Build student capacity for leadership
- Foster student and alumni connections to UBC and the local and international communities

OUR ROOTS

The UBC Arts Co-op Program started as a pilot program in 1997 for students in the Department of English. As a result of our growth and success, the program is thriving and includes students across all undergraduate disciplines within Arts (40+ different undergraduate majors in the Social Sciences, Humanities, and Creative and Performing Arts) and graduate programs in the iSchool@UBC (more formally known as the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies) and English PhD.

We are now the third largest co-op program at UBC with over 650 active students in the program.
The Arts Co-op Program placed 447 students during 2014/15, including 369 undergraduate (UG) students from Humanities, Social Science, and Creative and Performing Arts majors, 77 graduate (G) students from the UBC iSchool, and 1 PhD student from the Department of English. This is the highest placement success in the program’s history and an 8% increase over last year’s numbers.

EMPLOYMENT BY SECTOR & REGION

The public sector remained the largest employer of Arts Co-op students in 2014/15 with 46% of placements, down 2% from last year. The non-profit sector had 27% of placements (a decrease of 1% from last year), with the remaining 26% working in the private sector (an increase of 2% from last year).

In 2014/15, 75% of our placements were in the Lower Mainland area, 2% on Vancouver Island, 5% in other BC locations, 9% in other Canadian provinces and territories, and 9% in foreign countries.

EDUCATING GLOBAL CITIZENS: INTERNATIONAL PLACEMENTS

This year 41 students completed co-op terms in China, France, Hong Kong, Kenya, Singapore, Spain, and Thailand.

Since the Program’s inception in 2000, Arts Co-op students have worked in 29 different countries.

We know that living and working abroad is one of the most powerful educational experiences students can have, and want to ensure all students who want international co-op experience have access to challenging opportunities.
UBC Arts Co-op students are “dedicated employees who provide new insights about projects and possess a combination of youthful energy and creativity.”
– Time Warner Hong Kong
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

2014 UBC ARTS CO-OP STUDENTS OF THE YEAR

The Arts Co-op Program recognized each of the three winners for outstanding achievement in all aspects of student performance, including academics, the workplace, and professional and/or community involvement with a monetary award recorded on the student’s transcript.

THE iSCHOOL@UBC MLIS CO-OP
KRYSTYNA NOWAK
Master of Library and Information Studies
Work term: Student Librarian, BGC Engineering

THE iSCHOOL@UBC MAS CO-OP
GRANT HURLEY
Master of Archival Studies
Work term: Co-op Student, Records Management, Teck Resources Limited

UNDERGRADUATE ARTS CO-OP
JENNY HO
Bachelor of Arts, Double Major Psychology & English Literature
Work term: Learning Commons TECwhiz, UBC’s Faculty of Education
STUDENT INTAKE & SELECTION

During our annual intake in Fall 2014, we received 450 applications from undergraduate students and admitted 218. For the graduate program, we received 64 applications from iSchool students and admitted 62. For the pilot PhD program, we received and admitted 1.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

The Arts Co-op Students' Association (ACSA) strives to create a community for students and alumni to connect with their peers, and to share their co-op experiences and career aspirations. As the first co-op student association at UBC, ACSA organizes events to enhance students’ professional skills and provides them with an opportunity to get to know others in the program so they can learn from one another, have fun, and stay connected.

ACSA's 7 teams are led by students and elected by Arts Co-op students:

- Publishing Team
- Social Team
- Finance & Promotions Team
- Web Team
- Mentorship Team
- Alumni Relations Team
- Professional Development Team

In addition to regular professional development workshops, mentoring, and a range of social events, ACSA also contributes a portion of each students’ membership fees to the UBC United Way campaign, helping to raise awareness of the needs and services within our local community.

To learn more about ACSA and their accomplishments, and to read their online blog, visit http://ubcacsa.wordpress.com

HIGH CALIBRE STUDENTS

Potential undergraduate Arts Co-op students go through a rigorous and competitive application process, as we strive to admit outstanding students who will meet the needs of our employers.

We assess students’ suitability for the Program by reviewing their academic achievements, previous work and volunteer experiences, interpersonal skills, writing abilities, and career motivation. After reviewing applications, we select the strongest students to participate in group interviews where students are asked both behavioural and standard interview questions. Following this, students deliver a brief presentation and complete an independent writing assignment.

We invest in this rigorous selection process to ensure that we consistently deliver the highest calibre students for our employers.
STUDENT SALARY AVERAGES

Since the Program’s launch in January 2000, Arts Co-op student wages have totaled over $33.2 million!

The following salary data shows co-op salary averages by employment sector. Undergraduate students earn an average of $1,967 per month while on Arts Co-op work terms, while graduate students earn an average of $3,224 per month. In total, undergraduate Arts Co-op students earned $2,824,690 in salaries during 2014/15, and graduate Arts Co-op students earned $928,550 in salaries, for a total of $3,753,240 earned in 2014/15.

An undergraduate student will earn on average a total of $23,489 over 3 work terms. Students who choose to do an optional fourth co-op work term before graduation will earn an average of $31,262 and students who choose to do an optional fifth co-op work term will earn an average of $41,250.

UNDERGRADUATE SALARY BY WORK TERM

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<tr>
<th>Work Term</th>
<th>Average Salary</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE SALARIES BY SECTOR

- **Public**: Undergraduate $2,031, Graduate $3,394
- **Non-profit**: Undergraduate $1,973, Graduate $2,847
- **Private**: Undergraduate $1,875, Graduate $3,778
- **Overall**: Undergraduate $1,967, Graduate $3,224
SOCIAL SCIENCES MAJORS

SHANNON HOGAN  
Major Political Science, Minor Philosophy

Shannon began her co-op journey as a Marketing Intern for the Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival. Her main responsibilities there were selling tickets and promoting the festival through social media and email campaigns. By taking courses more relevant to the type of work she was interested in, Shannon then secured a highly coveted position with the US Consulate General in Vancouver. As a Political and Economic Intern, she was able to complement her studies by researching major political and economic developments between the US and Canada. She also co-wrote a speech on the Arctic Council and a cable on carbon emissions, which received accolades from other Consulates. She is currently building on her research and writing skills as a Research Assistant for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. Through her co-op terms, Shannon has made direct connections between work and academia, meaning that she will be graduating with a much more focused course load and the relevant work experience to confidently embark on her job search after graduation.

ALISON FUNG  
Major Geography

Alison completed 3 work terms directly related to her field of study and passion for environmental issues. She started co-op with Environment Canada, where she applied her community-based social marketing techniques to develop and execute a stakeholder engagement strategy to build partnerships and increase participation in the conservation of species at risk. Her second work term was also with Environment Canada, this time working directly for the Species at Risk Recovery Program. There, she consulted and notified First Nation bands, local governments, and other affected parties about species at risk recovery documents. Alison’s developing interest in the public sector led her to her next work term for the Corporation of Delta’s Green Programs & Services. As an Engineering Assistant, Alison is analyzing Delta’s recycling and waste systems, and implementing a standardized approach for waste receptacles and signage. By working at both municipal and federal levels, Alison learned first-hand how the government works to mitigate environmental issues. She looks forward to continuing in the public sector upon graduation and working on climate action.
HUMANITIES MAJORS

TYPES OF KNOWLEDGE

- Communications
- Fundraising
- Intercultural communication
- Language abilities: Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, South Asian Languages, Spanish
- Museum collections
- Policy development & analysis
- Program administration
- Research & analysis
- Technical & business writing
- Translation

FAIZ JAFFAR
Double Major Asian Studies (Chinese) & International Relations

Faiz completed his first 2 work terms as an ESL Coordinator with the Canadian Institute of Business Technology in China. There, he honed his communication and public speaking skills while teaching college level English classes and tutorials. He also helped new foreign teachers in China adapt to the working environment. Working in China greatly contributed to his studies and, with the connections he established there, he’s become more open to the idea of working abroad. This international experience transferred naturally to his current co-op term as a Resource Centre Support Worker at Progressive Intercultural Community Services, where he helps new immigrants transition into the Canadian workforce by assisting them with writing resumes and cover letters. Because of his co-op experiences, Faiz is now considering a career in teaching or employment services, two areas he had not previously considered.

MARIE SHUMAN
Double Major French & Linguistics

For Marie, co-op has given her the opportunity to “test out” 2 different careers. As a Commercial Intern at the Canadian Embassy in Bangkok, she attended 3 large scale education fairs and presented the advantages of studying in Canada to audiences of over 100 people, including, most prominently, Ambassadors from 10 different countries. She also provided support for the Trade Counselor on a mission to Phnom Penh, Cambodia. By conducting an informational interview with an Immigration Counselor at the Canadian Embassy, she was able to learn more about opportunities in other departments, which led her to apply to her current position as a Junior Research Analyst for Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Here, she researches and analyzes how students benefit from participating in international work or study experiences. Co-op has helped Marie determine and solidify her interest in working with international students and she is confident in her ability to succeed after graduation.
JOSEPHINE LEE
Major Art History

What Josephine values most about co-op is the opportunity for personal and professional growth. During her first position as a Communications Assistant for the MS Society of Canada, Josephine’s main responsibilities included developing social media content, editing publications, and providing research assistance on a variety of projects for the Director of Communications. She also interviewed and wrote profiles on over a dozen individuals for the Society, and created over 6 months’ worth of social media content to be published throughout the year. This experience led to landing her dream job as an Editorial Assistant for Canadian Literature. There, Josephine communicated regularly with authors, publishers, and advertisers to ensure the timely publication of the journal. She also worked on refining the editing and proofing processes for the journal’s content. Through each of her work terms, Josephine’s level of responsibility grew, from editing publications to directly overseeing the publication process. Through these experiences, Josephine has gained a newfound confidence in her abilities.

CHARMAINE LI
Double Major Creative Writing & English Literature (Honours)

For Charmaine, co-op gave her an inside scoop on what it’s like to work in the “real world.” Charmaine started her co-op journey as a Communications Assistant at the Burns Bog Conservation Society, where she designed and created brochures, posters, and advertisements. One of her most memorable projects was creating a wayfinding map for the Delta Nature Reserve, which was also published on their website. Throughout her co-op term, she also gained skills in marketing and web writing, which led Charmaine to secure a position with UBC Student Communications Services the following term. As a Student Communications Assistant, she worked on social media marketing, assisted with ongoing campaigns, and most significantly, wrote blog posts for UBCfyi. With an increasing readership, Charmaine felt she was able to positively influence the student body at UBC. Through co-op, Charmaine discovered the variety of opportunities and career paths available to students in her academic background. She looks forward to applying the skills she has gained towards tackling related interests, such as TV Writing.
**MASTERS DEGREES**
- Library & Information Studies (MLIS)
- Archival Studies (MAS)
- Dual Archival & Library Studies (MASLIS)

**TYPES OF KNOWLEDGE**
- Electronic information retrieval
- Internet research
- Knowledge management
- Management principles
- Organization of information
- Records management
- Research & analysis
- Website design & content development

**KRYSTYNA NOWAK**
**Master of Library and Information Studies**

Through co-op, Krystyna was able to apply knowledge and skills gained at the iSchool@UBC to the workplace, and enhance her understanding of the work that corporate and geoscience librarians do. As the Student Librarian at BGC Engineering, Krystyna’s responsibilities ranged from delivering in-depth research and analysis services to BGC employees, providing new employees with orientation to the library, and completing an entire redesign of the library’s internal website. She also served as the primary library contact, where she tracked and recorded statistics, handled all reference and interlibrary loan requests, and started a small collection development project. Krystyna’s ability to take initiative developed a great deal during her time in this role, as she was solely responsible for completing the website redesign and readily accepted the responsibility of serving as the primary library contact. Her demonstrated excellence in the workplace was recognized with the 2014 UBC iSchool MLIS Co-op Student of the Year Award.

**GRANT HURLEY**
**Dual Master of Archival Studies & Library and Information Studies**

Grant credits co-op with giving him “the confidence and experience needed to enter the workforce.” During his work term at Teck Resources Limited, Grant was able to spend half of his term with the Records Management Team and the other half working with the Corporate Library. He had a wide range of responsibilities, including writing a comprehensive manual of policies, procedures, and guidelines for the Corporate Archives, conducting an inventory of potential archival holdings, and assisting in archival reference for employees, members of the Board of Directors, and public researchers. With a glowing recommendation from his supervisor for demonstrating his determination and passion to succeed in the workplace, Grant’s achievements at Teck Resources were acknowledged with the 2014 UBC iSchool MAS Co-op Student of the Year Award. Upon graduation, he hopes to enter either academic or corporate archives, records, and/or librarianship.
ALUMNI PROFILES

AARON SANDERSON | B.A. 2009 | International Relations & Political Science
Director of Development, War Child Canada

Through co-op, Aaron had the opportunity to test out careers in the private, public, and non-profit sectors. He started co-op as an Account Service Representative for the Royal Bank of Canada, where he processed record-setting volumes of deposits for major corporate clients. The customer service and administrative skills he gained there eventually led him to his next co-op as a Case Assistant at what is now Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. There, he prepared over 200 First Nations people for alternative dispute resolution hearings to reconcile claims of abuse regarding Canada’s Indian Residential Schools. Building on his passion for helping others, Aaron then took on a position with the BC Children’s Hospital Foundation. As a Research & Prospect Management Assistant, Aaron prepared 200+ research profiles of top donor prospects for the executive and management teams. It was through these work terms that Aaron determined he would pursue a career in the non-profit sector. Aaron is now working as the Director of Development for War Child, an organization working to protect and support children in war zones around the world.

WILL SILVER | B.A. 2004 | English & Psychology
Freelance Web Designer, Instructor, and Writer

Will feels extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to experiment and try new things during his co-op work terms. He first started as a Program Assistant for Reach Society of North America, where he helped create devices for people with disabilities. Then, as a Special Project Officer with Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC), Will prepared questions and answers for the HRDC Minister’s parliamentary debates. He also wrote and edited sections for a 120+ page report that would be viewed by a Parliamentary Committee. It was extremely rewarding for Will to know that his work would be discussed by Members of Parliament in the House of Commons. For his final co-op, Will took on a position with the UBC Arts Co-op Office. As a Research Assistant, he researched and wrote student and employer profiles for the website. It was through this work term that Will discovered his passion for web development. He is now pursuing that passion while creating e-learning courses for clients like BC Hydro, YVR, and the City of Calgary.

ANNIE TSAY | B.A. 2003 | Psychology
Infant Development Coordinator, Richmond Society for Community Living

For Annie, co-op opened doors to the plethora of opportunities available to Arts students. She began her co-op journey as a Program Administrator with the Science Council of BC. There, she reviewed applications for the Student Summer Works Program and made recommendations for funding student summer jobs. She also met with participants to gather feedback on the impact of the program. For her next work term, Annie relocated to Victoria for a position with the Forest Practices Board as a Communications Assistant. There, she formatted and edited reports, and prepared a presentation for the Director of the Board. During her final co-op, Annie worked as a Learning Products Developer with Agilent Technologies, where she created online help entries for software programs and wrote product release notes for new software. Through each work term, Annie learned that Arts students can play meaningful roles in the science and technology sectors, alongside scientists and engineers. Co-op helped Annie establish herself as a well-rounded professional, and she is now working as an Infant Development Coordinator with the Richmond Society for Community Living.
ALUMNI PROFILES

KIM STATHERS | Dual Master of Archival Studies & Library and Information Studies, 2011
Archivist/Librarian, University of Northern British Columbia Library

Co-op has been an essential part of Kim’s career progression. She completed her first co-op at UBC Rare Books and Special Collections. There, she gained extensive experience in the digitization of archival material and received comprehensive archives training in the form of finding aid and metadata creation. To broaden her work experience, and increase her employability, Kim took on a second work term. This time, she worked as an Archival/Records Management Specialist with the Canadian Forest Service in Victoria. In this role, she authored a plan for the creation of an archival management system for the Pacific Forestry Centre. This included both the assessment and selection of the software program. Planning an archives system from the ground up had its challenges, but Kim notes this experience as one of her biggest accomplishments during her co-op term. She now uses the same archives management software in her current role at the University of Northern British Columbia.

TRACEY VANTYGHEM | Master of Library and Information Studies, 2013
Content Strategist, Yellow Pencil

For Tracey, co-op played a critical part in securing a full-time job after graduation. She started as a Library and Communications Assistant for the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre (BMSC). There, she provided reference support for university level science courses, and delivered lessons to both students and researchers on how to use BMSC’s biodiversity database to catalogue collections or noteworthy observations of marine life around the Centre. Building upon this experience, Tracey went on to complete 2 work terms with the UBC Scholarly Communications and Copyright Office. In this role, Tracey supported researchers, instructors, and graduate students with scholarly communications and copyright issues. She also developed a new Scholarly Communications website for the library. Through these experiences, Tracey was able to practice the skills and knowledge she gained throughout her degree by applying them to a professional work environment. Tracey is now working as a Content Strategist with Yellow Pencil. With 3 work terms and a portfolio filled with work examples, Tracey credits co-op for helping her get there.

ALUMNI RELATIONS

The UBC Arts Co-op Alumni Network started in 2010 and the 2014/15 Organizing Committee consists of Elena Janssen (BA ’08), Kimberly Hughes (BA ’14), and Jim Wu (BA ’09). They work closely with the Arts Co-op office and the Arts Alumni Relations office to connect alumni, staff, current students, and the university. The group holds networking events throughout the year, and shares professional advice with current students through pre-employment conferences and the ACSA mentorship program.

UBC alumni play a critical role in supporting the growth of our program. In the fiscal 2014/15 year, they posted 110 co-op positions with our program, accounting for 25% of all postings.
EMployee REPRESENTATIVES
MARNIE BURNHAM, Project Manager, Regional Archival Program, Library and Archives Canada
SHAWN CRAWFORD, Project Manager, Research Unit, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
ANDREW FABRO, Head, Library Services West, Environment Canada
ROB HAJDU, Project Manager, Canadian Environmental Assessment Authority
TARA HARTLEY, Regional Director, Office of Small and Medium Enterprises Pacific Region, Public Works and Government Services Canada
SUZANNE JAY, Director, Communications, MS Society of Canada, BC and Yukon Division
SUSAN MA, Head of Education and Group Programs, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden
BRONWEN SPROUT, Head, Digital Programs and Services Digital Initiatives, UBC Library
ARTS CO-OP ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVES
CHRISTINE GEGICH, Supervisor and Appellate Court Records Officer, Superior Courts Judiciary
JOCELYN HALLMAN, Teaching and Learning Librarian, Capilano University
TIMOTHY HUNT, EDMS Coordinator, “E” Division, Informatics, RCMP
SINALA AASSANAND, Associate Dean, Student Success
WENDY CHAN, Major Creative Writing, Minor Sociology, Executive Coordinator, Arts Co-op Students’ Association
Mandy Wu, Double Major International Relations & French, Executive Coordinator, Arts Co-op Students’ Association
GRACE HERMANSEN, Major Philosophy, Minor International Relations, Elected Representative

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES
EMILY CHICORLI, Master of Archival Studies
CHRISTOPHER STEPHENSON, Master of Library & Information Studies
MELISSA NIGHTINGALE, Student Services Coordinator, the iSchool@UBC

UBC STAFF
JULIE WALCHLI, Director (Committee Chair)
SHEILA ASHWELL, Associate Director
ANNA JUBILO, Coordinator, Graduate Programs
MELISSA NIGHTINGALE, Student Services Coordinator, the iSchool@UBC
JULIE WALCHLI, Director

Julie has worked in the field of co-operative education since 1997 when she founded the first co-op education program in Arts at UBC in the English Department. Since then she has helped to create an Arts-wide program that offers career training and opportunities to students throughout all undergraduate programs, masters programs in the UBC iSchool, and recently to PhD students in the English Department. During 2008/09 she completed a secondment as Senior Advisor, Strategic Initiatives with the UBC Go Global International Learning Programs Office, creating a Student Safety Abroad policy and resources for UBC, and a handbook for faculty members leading Group Study Programs Abroad.

Julie has served in a number of leadership roles in the co-op community, and is currently President of the Canadian Association for Co-operative Education and Past President of the BC Co-op Association. A graduate from UBC’s B.A. and M.A. programs in English, Julie taught in the English department from 1993-97 and co-edited *Landmarks: A Process Reader for Canadian Writers*. Recognitions include UBC’s President’s Service Award for Staff Excellence and the Association for Co-operative Education BC award for outstanding contributions to the Association.

Undergraduate Degree: B.A., English (Honours) & Political Science (UBC)
Graduate Degree: M.A., English (UBC)

SHEILA ASHWELL, Associate Director

on leave from February 2015

Sheila has been working in the career education and employment services field since 1995. Starting with youth in the secondary school system, she moved on to employment coaching, workshop delivery, and employer relations with Career Services at UBC, and has been actively involved in the growth and development of UBC’s Arts Co-op Program since 2000.

An alumna of UBC’s Psychology Program, Sheila understands the value of an Arts degree. Sheila’s primary responsibilities are to manage the undergraduate Arts Co-op program, including the co-op student recruitment process, developing and delivering our “Illuminate” pre-employment conference series, 1:1 coaching and advising of students, conducting site visits, and maintaining positive relationships with the varied employer groups. In 2007 she completed her M.Ed. in Counselling Psychology from UBC, in 2008/09 she served as Acting Director, and in 2009/2010 she took a personal leave to act as UBC’s Loaned Representative to the United Way of the Lower Mainland and to volunteer/travel in East Africa. Sheila is the recipient of the 2008 Dean of Arts Award for Staff Excellence.

Undergraduate Degree: B.A., Psychology (UBC)
Graduate Degree: M.Ed., Counselling Psychology (UBC)
MERRY WANG, Coordinator, Information Management

Having graduated from the UBC Arts Co-op Program in May 2005, Merry has first-hand knowledge of the value of co-operative education. Through the Arts Co-op Program, Merry learned how to apply the skills she developed as an International Relations major in a variety of work environments. Merry completed her co-op work terms at S.U.C.C.E.S.S. (as an Assistant Program Coordinator), Atira Women's Resource Society (as a Human Resources Assistant), and TRIUMF (as a Technology Transfer Assistant). Merry hopes that through participation in the Arts Co-op Program, students, employers, and faculty members will realize that a Liberal Arts education prepares students for a wide range of career opportunities. Merry is the recipient of the 2012 Dean of Arts Award for Staff Excellence.

Undergraduate Degree: B.A., International Relations (UBC)

DAVID YUEN, Program Assistant through June 2015
Manager, Job Development from July 2015

David graduated in May 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations, as well as considerable experience and passion in student affairs and extracurricular programming. As an Arts Co-op alumnus, David completed co-op work terms with Science World, UBC Student Development, and UBC International Student Development. David was also an active campus and community leader through his involvement with UBC Orientations, World Vision UBC, and the Global Lounge. These experiences helped augment his dedication to the enriching value of experiential learning, education, and student leadership outside the university classroom.

Undergraduate Degree: B.A., International Relations & Psychology (UBC)

JONATHAN LEE, Program Assistant from July 2015

Through his Bachelor of Music and tenure as President of the UBC Music Undergraduate Student Association, Jonathan developed a keen interest in student services and academic support. Continuing in this vein, Jonathan immersed himself in various administrative roles to develop his skills and gain experience working with students. He brings knowledge and expertise to this role from his work at the Segal Graduate School of Business at SFU and the UBC International Student Initiative Awards Office. As Program Assistant, Jonathan supports the essential operations of the Arts Co-op Program. He mediates all stages of the co-op hiring process in close collaboration with students, employers, and stakeholders – interactions where he finds himself engaging in new challenges and eye-opening experiences every day.

Undergraduate Degree: Bachelor of Music – Double Major in Vocal Performance and English, Emphasis Language (UBC)

JASMINE BASSI, Co-op Coordinator from February 2015

Jasmine’s role in the office is to support current co-op students through advising, liaise with employers looking to hire co-op students, plan conferences and professional development sessions, conduct site visits with employers and students on work terms, and support the Arts Co-op Students’ Association and Alumni Network. In her last position, Jasmine worked as a First Year Experience Coordinator at UBC’s Centre for Student Involvement and Careers. Her role was to coordinate the University’s orientation program, Imagine, for over 7,000 students. Jasmine is a big supporter of co-operative education, having completed three work terms with the Arts Co-op Program, including two with the Arts Co-op office. Jasmine is currently completing her Masters in Higher Education.

Undergraduate Degree: B.A., Political Science & Sociology (UBC)
ANNA JUBILO, Coordinator, Graduate Programs

Anna has been working with graduate students since 2002 and has a wide-ranging background in librarianship, program coordination, communications, and administration; extensive experience working with and participating in international exchange programs; as well as several years of experience at UBC, working with various departments and programs in the Faculty of Arts. She first worked with Arts Co-op in 2001 during a work term as a shared Communications Assistant with the Dean of Arts Office. Her other co-op positions were as a Technical Communicator for TELUS Enterprise Solutions and as an Academic Office Assistant with the YMCA International College. While completing her M.L.I.S. degree at UBC, Anna completed her practicum and professional experience with the Vancouver Art Gallery Library, worked as a Coordinator for VPL’s Summer Readalong Program, and as a work-study student, managing the Department of Linguistics’ Reading Room. She has been in her role with the Arts Co-op Program since 2008.

Undergraduate Degree: B.A., English & Linguistics (UBC)
Graduate Degree: M.L.I.S. (UBC)

HEATHER LIAU, Manager, Marketing & Industry Relations

Combining her background in marketing and a passion for student learning, Heather supports the growth of the Arts Co-op Program through active marketing and industry outreach. She works with employers, alumni, and industry partners to promote co-op hiring and to create quality learning experiences for Arts Co-op students. In her previous experience, Heather brought international attention to British Columbia’s technology industry by launching the province’s first International Partnering Forum at the Vancouver International Digital Festival. Through Heather’s personalized business matchmaking, local companies were able to pitch the likes of Cartoon Network, BBC, and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. Heather has also led multiple cross-functional teams in marketing campaigns for Vision Critical, makers of one of the world’s most adopted online research platforms. Until May 2015, Heather held the role of Co-Chair of the External Relations Committee of the Association for Co-operative Education in BC/Yukon.

Undergraduate Degree: Bachelor of Commerce (UBC)

BLAIR SLATER, Manager, Job Development through May 2015

Blair has always been a strong advocate of the UBC Arts Co-op Program and co-operative education. After graduating from UBC Arts Co-op, Blair returned to his first co-op employer, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, where he managed different locations and hired and supported numerous co-op students. Since then, he has worked as a Tour Operations Manager in Europe, and most recently as a District Manager in Marketing and Sales with ADP Canada. Blair maintained his connection with co-op by sitting on the Arts Co-op Advisory Committee and participating in the mentorship program. While with Arts Co-op, Blair was responsible for expanding the Program by finding new employers. He also used his experience as a co-op alumnus and co-op employer to actively help advise and counsel current students.

Undergraduate Degree: B.A., Political Science & History (UBC)
HIRE EDUCATION

The UBC Arts Co-op Program has students available each January, May, and September for 4 or 8-month paid work placements.

Undergraduate students study a wide range of courses in Social Sciences, Humanities, and the Creative and Performing Arts.

Graduate students from the iSchool@UBC and English PhD program are also available.