Former faculty member heads Law

Kenneth M. Lysyk, 41, deputy attorney-general for the Province of Saskatchewan, will become dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of B.C. on July 1.

Mr. Lysyk, whose special areas of interest are constitutional law and native Indian rights, was a member of the UBC faculty for a decade. He was first appointed in 1960 as a lecturer in law and resigned in 1970 to accept a post as professor of law at the University of Toronto.

As Saskatchewan's deputy attorney-general since 1971, Mr. Lysyk has been responsible for the administration of justice and for advising the government on all matters of law.

Mr. Lysyk succeeds Dean Albert J. McClean, head of the UBC law faculty since 1971, who will remain at UBC as professor of law.

A native of Weyburn, Sask., Mr. Lysyk was educated at McGill University, where he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1954; the University of Saskatchewan, where he was awarded the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1957; and Oxford University in England, where he received the degree of Bachelor of Civil Law in 1960.

He has been called to the bar in both Saskatchewan and British Columbia and was named a Queen's Counsel in 1973.

Mr. Lysyk's work in the field of native Indian rights began at UBC when he was appointed consultant to a UBC Indian research project in 1965.

With two other members of the UBC faculty, he contributed to a volume entitled "A Survey of the Contemporary Indians of Canada: Political and Educational Needs and Policies," edited by UBC's Prof. Harry Hawthorn.

He has also written articles on the constitutional position of the Canadian Indian, Indian hunting rights, and the settlement of Indian title claims.

He has served as legal advisor and director of legal research for the Indian Claims Commission and as special advisor to the Department of National Health and Welfare on constitutional matters relating to social welfare.

He has also worked on reports and studies for the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Privy Council Office, and National Health and Welfare.

Mr. Lysyk has acted as chairman of boards of arbitration on labor matters in B.C. and Ontario and was B.C. editor of the Canadian Bar Review from 1966-70.

He is married and has three children.

Gears ready electric car

A task force of UBC Engineers is racing against time and a rapidly declining bank account to complete an innovative electric car for the opening of Habitat Forum in Vancouver on May 27.

Third-year electrical engineering student Basil Peters, who conceived the idea of building the car in 1974, says his project group is working day and night to have the battery-powered car ready for display.

"There's no doubt that the car will be ready for Habitat Forum," Mr. Peters told UBC Reports, "but we may not have enough time or money to put all the finishing touches on the vehicle."

So far, nearly $80,000 has been spent on constructing the car, which Mr. Peters says is designed to be "an attractive alternative" to the conventional gasoline-powered automobile. Major contributors include B.C. Hydro, which has given $25,000, and the B.C. Department of Labour, which has approved $26,000 over the past two summers to pay the salaries of students working on the project.

About a dozen students form the core of the working group that has built the car. However, a total of 50 students have been involved in various aspects of the design.

Please turn to Page Four
See ELECTRIC CAR

Operating grant

UBC's operating grant for 1976-77 is up 8.02 per cent from 1975-76 — to $99,370,966 from $91,988,957.

Allocation of the operating grants by the Universities Council was disclosed in a letter made public at the May meeting of the UBC Board of Governors.
Engineer Peter Steblin works flat out writing up results for civil engineering survey course that keeps Applied Science students on campus after exams have ended. Fellow Engineers are engrossed in instrument that measures distance. John Morris photo.

'Jobs not in jeopardy'

Every teacher presently teaching in British Columbia should have a job next September if there is a willingness to move to where the work is, Education Minister Pat McGeer has announced.

"I want to make it clear to all B.C. teachers that, contrary to some of the statements made by officers of their own association, their jobs are not now in jeopardy, nor will they be in the future," Dr. McGeer stated.

He said that if local school boards adopt a reasonable approach, substantial savings can be effected on school costs without limiting the opportunities for teachers and without limiting, in any way, the quality of education that is offered.

In recent years in B.C. there has been an oversupply of teachers in the metropolitan areas and an undersupply in the smaller communities of the province. Once again, teachers are being urged to serve in central B.C., the north, the east Kootenays and the more remote regions of the province.

To fill teacher vacancies school districts have, in the past, been forced to recruit outside B.C., a practice that is likely to continue for the present. The minister said B.C. should strive for a reasonable level of self-sufficiency in the supply of teachers.

The minister stated that this year the department will be writing the school districts encouraging them to give priority to B.C. graduates for new teaching assignments.

Medical science for increased research

An organization that hopes to get a better break from government on medical research funding was formed Monday night at a medical scientists' meeting in the Instructional Resources Centre, UBC.

More than 70 attended, and the vote to form the Association of Medical Scientists of British Columbia was unanimous.

Dr. Sidney Katz of Pharmaceutical Sciences, one of the organizers, told the meeting that the state of medical research funding in Canada "is more shocking than any of us realized."

He said that because of inflation and only slight annual increases in the budget of the Medical Research Council of Canada, the number of "real" dollars available in 1976-77 for medical research has declined by more than 10 per cent since 1971-72.

He said that on a per-capita basis, Canada spends less on medical research than Portugal, England, Israel "and many other smaller and less-endowed countries." He said the United States spends six times as much per capita as Canada on medical research. Canada spent $2.08 last year, per capita, while the U.S. spent $12.91, Dr. Katz said.

Purposes and aims of the new association were also approved unanimously, as follows:

1. To obtain data and information regarding current funding of medical research in British Columbia, in particular, and in Canada in general, and to act as a clearing house for that information.

2. To develop a public awareness of the nature and value of medical research by attempting to increase newspaper, radio and television coverage of the work and achievements of local scientists, by creating speakers bureaus, and by other related activities deemed appropriate by the association.

Generous

Miss Florence Fyfe-Smith, a longtime friend of the University who died in January at the age of 75, remembered UBC generously in her will.

Miss Fyfe-Smith, whose father James came to Canada from Australia at the turn of the century and founded a hard wood importing business, left $100,000 for the purchase of oriental objects to add to the Fyfe-Smith Oriental Collection which already had been given to the University for display in the new Museum of Anthropology.

The collection consists of more than 3,000 pieces of fine Oriental art — ivory
tists to press 
research funds

3. To inform national associations such as the Canadian Federation of Biological Societies (CFBS) and the Canadian Society for Clinical Investigation (CSCI) of the activities and aims of the association.

4. To support the establishment of a permanent lobby in Ottawa which will work on behalf of Canadian medical researchers. It is anticipated that the permanent lobby will be conducted and financed by existing national organizations such as CFBS and CSCI.

5. To discuss with local members of Parliament the importance of developing a science policy for Canada and of making medical research funding an important national priority.

6. To make representations to members of the Legislative Assembly in Victoria regarding the urgent need for expanded provincial support of medical research.

Membership in the association will be open to “individuals involved in or associated with medically related research in British Columbia.”

It was decided to form a general council, with one member to be elected or appointed from each department of the UBC Faculty of Medicine, plus one member each from UBC’s Faculties of Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmaceutical Sciences, the University of Victoria, Simon Fraser University and voluntary funding agencies.

Dr. Chris Fibiger of Neurological Sciences and Dr. J.J. Miller of Physiology, who worked with Dr. Katz on preparatory work leading to the Monday meeting, said they hoped to hold an initial meeting of the general council within about 10 days.

Dr. William Webber, associate dean of Medicine, chaired the Monday meeting.

Meetings range widely

If your academic interests run to fluid dynamics, environmental design, rock gardens or urban forestry, there’s a conference in the offing for you at UBC.

Here are brief descriptions of some meetings to be held at UBC this summer.

The Canadian Symposium on Fluid Dynamics, which opens Monday (May 17) and continues until May 20, is primarily for applied mathematicians who will hear papers on such topics as resource management, population biology and the theory of urban land rent. Details are available from Dr. Brian Seymour, Department of Mathematics, local 3205.

EDRA 7 is an acronym for the seventh annual conference of the Environmental Design Research Association, which will meet at UBC May 25 to 28 to hear papers on environmental design and psychology, urban sociology and applied anthropology. Distinguished speakers include Nikolaas Habraken, head of architecture at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and John Platt, of the Mental Health Research Institute at the University of Michigan. Call UBC’s psychology department, local 6789, for more information.

Other meetings related to the environment involving UBC’s Botanical Garden are those of the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations, which is sponsoring an urban forestry symposium on the campus on June 12, and the first interim international rock garden plant conference on the theme Alpines of the Americas, scheduled for July 18 to 25. The former meeting is associated with the United Nations Habitat conference. Call the UBC Botanical Garden, local 3928, for more details.

And if you’re looking ahead, the sixth Canadian Conference of Applied Mechanics will meet at UBC from May 30 to June 3, 1977. Conference topics include acoustics, biomechanics and solar energy. Deadline for submission of abstracts is Nov. 1 and further information is available from Dr. V.J. Modi, local 2914.

UBC Reports/May 12, 1976/3
ELECTRIC CAR
Continued from Page One

"I spent the summer of 1974 building an electric motorcycle with a grant from the Opportunities for Youth program. The Wally Wagon (an earlier project of UBC Engineers which gained international fame) was in the news that summer and the idea of attempting to build an electric car just came naturally," Mr. Peters said.

Beginning in the fall of 1974, Mr. Peters held about 20 noon-hour meetings in the Faculty of Applied Science to recruit a working party. Over a period of time a core group emerged to work on the project.

The car will be powered by 650 pounds of lead-acid batteries, which will be replaced by a superior type of battery when it becomes available. The lead-acid batteries will give the car a range of 35 to 40 miles at a top speed of about 60 miles per hour. A more advanced type of battery will increase the car's range to about 200 miles.

The front-wheel-drive car will also boast an automatic transmission modified for high efficiency. The frame and body are made in one piece out of moulded plastic foam encased in a plastic "sandwich."

And after Habitat Forum? "We'll be looking for financial support from private sources and government to try to get the car into production," Mr. Peters says.

Applications, which should be submitted by May 19, and further information are available from Frank Maurer, Room 100F, Hut B-8, local 4329.