

SFU Press Releases Collection

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Alumni honoured for outstanding achievements

Contact: Marianne Meadahl, Media & PR, [Phone removed]

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SFU will pay tribute to four of its alumni on Feb. 16 for their contributions to academics, career, athletics and community service. The recipients of SFU's 2004 outstanding alumni awards will be honored at an awards dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel in Vancouver. They include:
Academic achievement: Dr. Steven Jones (MSc '94) is an assistant professor of medical genetics at UBC who, as head of bioinformatics at the Genome Sciences Centre (GSC), leads the largest bioinformatics group in Canada and one of the largest in the world;
Professional achievement: Dr. Leora Kuttner (PhD '84) is internationally renowned for her work in pediatric pain management, and is currently a clinical psychologist and clinical professor of pediatrics at the University of British Columbia;
Athletic achievement: Olympian Bruce Robertson (BGS '77) won 16 medals for Canada in international competition as a member of Canada's national swim team between 1972 and 1976. At the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich, Robertson brought home two of the five medals Canada won -- gold in the 100m butterfly and a bronze in the 4x100 medley relay;
Service to the community: Shauna Sylvester (BA '90) is founder and executive director of IMPACS -- the Institute for Media, Policy and Civil Society, a charitable organization which strives to build strong communities by providing Canadian non-profit organizations with communications training and education, and by supporting free, open and accountable media internationally. Biology undergraduate Jan Verspoor will also be honored with an alumni association outstanding student leadership award. Verspoor is described as a gifted scholar who maintains an impressive grade point average while donating his time to a variety of volunteer activities. During the fall 2004 semester he combined his love of sports and his interest in helping people by volunteering to lead international sports camps for underprivileged children in war-torn countries such as Bosnia, Romania, Croatia and Iran.

The Master of Ceremonies for the event will be SFU alumna and Vancouver Sun journalist Daphne Bramham, MAL '99, recipient of the 2003 outstanding alumni award for professional achievement. The event is open to the public. Tickets are \$100 per person or \$750 per table of 8. Please send your request to cheung@sfu.ca or call [Phone removed].