Alison Wylie’s recent panel discussion on “Constructive Engagement: Scientific and Aboriginal Communities in Collaboration” (see p. 4) brought together practitioners from several different sectors, discussing experiences in and visions for collaborative research with community partners as equal partners.

Collaboration is the key word here, and one that goes to the heart of IPinCH—an initiative based in constructive engagement through collaboration of communities and academics from a range of fields. Collaborative ventures are an important means to tackle seemingly familiar subjects in new ways, often revealing previously unrecognized dimensions. It’s one thing to have several archaeologists writing together on tangible and intangible aspects of cultural heritage; but add a cultural anthropologist to the mix, and then lawyers and legal scholars, a research ethics expert, and so on, and suddenly new understandings of, and insights into, the nature of, and implications of, intellectual property emerge.

The two-part article on “Intellectual Property Issues in Cultural Heritage” recently published by IPinCH team members in the journal *Heritage Management,* exemplifies the transformation of such writing collectives into dynamic entities with each participant bringing new ideas to the table, different ideas, generally in agreement, but occasionally not, thus requiring discussion—indeed negotiation—to achieve consensus. With multiple authors, the writing process itself becomes both conceptually challenging and generative. For the *Heritage Management* articles, Part 1 had five co-authors, Part 2 had eight.

The same thing is arising with conference presentations. Alison Wylie’s panel discussion brought together academics and community representatives, including specialists in health sciences, agriculture, and cultural heritage. Recent and forthcoming conference presentations and writing projects are bringing together new combinations of IPinCHers—and, importantly, community partners and Associate members—on such topics as bioarchaeology, repatriation, cultural tourism, trademark protection, and the 2010 Winter Olympics, as just a few examples.

Such initiatives, including those noted elsewhere in this issue, reflect an important transition in IPinCH. Much of the first two years was devoted to infrastructure. Considerable time and energy was dedicated to making decisions about key project components, creating procedures and policies, developing the case study and student fellowship programs, designing and implementing the Knowledge Base, and otherwise getting this massive project in motion.

It is now gratifying to see the results of those efforts in both tangible form (e.g., a growing number of IPinCH publications) and intangible form (e.g., new synergies developing among team members). I don’t know what new insights will arise from these collaborative engagements in the coming year, but suspect they will be significant.
IPinCH Awards our First Two Ph.D. Fellowships

Our first two IPinCH Graduate Student Fellows illustrate the diversity of scholarship and endeavour encompassed by our project.

Awarded our first Graduate Student Fellowship, Michael Klassen is an SFU Archaeology Ph.D. candidate whose dissertation examines the engagement of the non-treaty St’át’imc and Nlaka’pamux nations of British Columbia in archaeological theory and heritage stewardship, and their perspectives on both tangible and intangible properties. Michael’s Ph.D. supervisor, Eldon Yellowhorn, is an IPinCH co-investigator, as are the other members of his committee, George Nicholas and John Welch. Michael will be working with the Mookaakin Foundation of the Blood Tribe, Dorothy First Rider, and IPinCH Steering Committee member Catherine Bell on our Case Study, *Kainisinni: Protection and Inclusion of Blackfoot Knowledge and Principles in Government Consultations Affecting our Cultural Heritage*. Michael has years of experience working with the Blood Tribe in other contexts.

Our second IPinCH Graduate Student Fellow, UBC Anthropology Ph.D. candidate Solen Roth, is engaged in research on Northwest Coast giftware, which lies at the interface of the material expressions of intellectual property with both Indigenous and Western cultural heritage values. This fall, Solen will analyze the data she gathered before, during and after the Vancouver 2010 Olympics, and then complete her dissertation. Her Ph.D. committee co-supervisors are Dr. Jennifer Kramer and Dr. Anthony Shelton.

Solen has posted a thought-provoking IPinCH Student Blog entry on a recent seminar at the Otsego Institute of the Fenimore Art Museum in Cooperstown, NY. It can be found on the IPinCH homepage in ‘Blogs’ under the tab ‘Outputs & Resources’: www.sfu.ca/ipinch/node/638.

Two Team Members Shoulder New Roles as Working Group Co-Chairs

We are pleased to announce two new co-chairs. Solen Roth has accepted Co-chair Sven Ouzman’s invitation to join him in this role for the Commodifications of the Past? group. Team members can read the thoughtful story she submitted as the “fee” to join the group when logged into the IPinCH website at: www.sfu.ca/ipinch/node/633 (or go to ‘Working Groups’ in the left menu, and select Commodifications of the Past?). The previous Co-chair, Jane Anderson, stepped down to become our IPinCH Project Ethnographer.

IPinCH Associate Patricia Goff is the new Co-chair of the Working Group on Customary, Conventional and Vernacular Legal Forms. Stepping in for Graham Dutfield, who regretfully finds himself over-committed, Patricia has been working with Co-chair Rosemary Coombe in organizing a forthcoming roundtable on “Indigeneity and Intellectual Property in Transnational Policy-Making” at the University of York’s Centre for Public Policy and Law in Toronto, Canada. Exploring the political economy of traditional knowledge, Patricia is currently studying the work of the World Intellectual Property Organization’s Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore.

Vancouver-area Case Study Workshop October 15–16, 2010

IPinCH wants to make a positive difference at the community level, in the academic domain, and for our stakeholders. Accomplishing this requires learning about the aspirations and expectations of the communities IPinCH works with, while at the same time encouraging communities to engage not just with academics, but also with each other.

Sharing communities’ experiences relating both to intellectual property issues in cultural heritage and to working with IPinCH will be the focus of a two-day workshop for university researchers, community co-developers, and elders participating in our Community-based Initiatives/Case Studies Workshop to be held in the Vancouver area, October 15–16th, 2010. The agenda, being developed with participant input, is designed foremost to meet the needs of the case study teams and participating communities.

The workshop will allow each Community-based Initiative/Case Study team to provide a brief overview of work in progress, opening topics for discussion. There will also be a discussion circle around topics to be addressed in our *Field Guide to Community-based Participatory Research in Cultural Heritage* (working title).

The Working Group on Collaboration, Relationships and Case Studies is assisting with the planning. Additional information on the workshop will be posted when available.
Profile: IPinCH Project Director George Nicholas

One thing you should know about George Nicholas is he can be stubborn about things he believes in. During the final interview with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) adjudication committee reviewing the proposal that would become IPinCH, a committee member asked, “What makes you qualified to direct a project of this scope?”

George began by noting his years of directing archaeological projects, pointed out the range of talented researchers who agreed to join the team, and then added, “And as you know, I can be very persistent,” referring to submission of the proposal four years in a row. With the experience of two previous SSHRC interviews behind him, George told colleagues, “When the committee laughed at this remark, I knew we would be funded.”

Such persistence is shared by George’s close colleagues, Kelly Bannister and Julie Hollowell (see photo). The three began collaborating to develop the proposal in 2003. Refinements made over the course of four submissions, with assistance from SFU grants facilitator Bev Neufeld and other team members, finally led to funding in April 2008.

In some ways, the journey to IPinCH goes back much further than co-development of the IPinCH proposal. Growing up in western Connecticut, George’s childhood interest in archaeology and anthropology was fed by National Geographic magazine and Mr. Wizard’s science-oriented television show. He began his archaeological training in earnest the summer before entering college, and subsequently amassed decades of field experience—from Maine to British Columbia—on projects relating to early postglacial land use, the human ecology of wetland settings, cultural resource management, and many other topics. While still active in these areas, a new chapter in his career began in 1991 when he and his family moved to British Columbia. In 1991 he developed the Indigenous Archaeology program at SFU’s campus on the Kamloops Indian Reserve, and then directed the program for 16 years.

George credits his experience working with Indigenous communities for the awakening of a more socially relevant kind of archaeology central to IPinCH. He states in a recent interview, “In addition to the scholarly aspects of IPinCH, there is the personal dimension. Developing and working with the IPinCH Project is one of the most rewarding aspects of my professional career. For a long time, I’ve been doing archaeology in the field, in the lab, writing up research reports, publishing, and so on. All of this contributes to scholarly knowledge, but far too little of this knowledge ever makes it back to the communities whose ancestral sites I have been excavating. IPinCH provides us with an opportunity to use our knowledge, our experiences, our expertise in the many different fields represented in this team to do some real good. Not to say that usual scholarly activity doesn’t benefit people. It certainly does: But here’s a way to ensure that we are aiding the individual communities with whom we work. And by providing communities with both information and the tools of research, they can then proceed to manage their own cultural heritage however they see most appropriate.”

One important mandate of IPinCH, and indeed of the SSHRC research program, is contributing to student training, which also resonates with George on a personal level. “The fact that we are teaching the next generation of scholars, whether they be archaeologists or ethicists or community-based practitioners, teaching them how to develop good practices, how to understand some of the cultural and political dimensions of intellectual property issues in cultural heritage, and how to develop truly collaborative projects, is vitally important.

We are doing our best to give our students—by example but especially by direct participation—the tools they need for moving forward in becoming the best scholars, the best practitioners they can be in the future.”

Asked about the broad-reaching contributions expected of IPinCH, George notes, “IPinCH is an opportunity for capacity-building in communities, and here we’re not only talking about Indigenous communities, but communities as represented by even professional organizations, such as the Society for American Archaeology or the World Archaeological Congress. We are able to share with these organizations our research findings, our experiences, to help them understand the kinds of intellectual property issues that they may encounter, either today or in the future. Based on IPinCH, we may be able to provide them with guidelines for developing more equitable, more successful, more satisfying policies between all of the different stakeholders who have an interest in intellectual property issues in cultural heritage. If we are able to achieve only a fraction of this, we will certainly be very satisfied.”

Almost twenty years after the expansion of his own archaeological worldview, George sees directing the IPinCH project as a way of sharing it, “As the IPinCH team developed over the course of years, we were able to bring together essentially a dream team, many of whom Kelly, Julie, and I had known personally for some time, others only by reputation. These are the best scholars, the most dedicated individuals, many of whom are path-breakers in creating more ethical, more equitable approaches in anthropology, archaeology, and many other realms. For me it is not only a pleasure, but an honour to be working with these world-class scholars, and for all of us to join together to promote more informed and satisfying approaches to the tangible and intangible dimensions of cultural heritage.”

Editors’ note: George baulked at the suggestion of his profile appearing here, preferring to feature another member of the team. However, after much convincing, he conceded that members of the IPinCH collective, especially community partners, might like to know more about the person behind the project.
Thanks to IPinCH Co-investigator Alison Wylie, the public panel discussion “Constructive Engagement: Scientific and Aboriginal Communities in Collaboration” brought together speakers in the fields of archaeology, health, and agriculture at Simon Fraser University’s downtown campus on June 18, 2010. This IPinCH event was part of “Objectivity in Science,” a four-day conference sponsored by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), with additional support coming from SFU Dean of Arts and Social Sciences Lesley Cormack.

George Nicholas first outlined the IPinCH project’s approach to collaborative research, then Albert (Sonny) McHalsie and David Schaepe from IPinCH partner organization, the Stó:lo Research and Resource Management Centre, discussed a range of interactions between academic researchers and Stó:lo. Doris Cook, of the Family and Community Medicine department at the University of Arizona, described successes of her home community, Akwasasne, in meeting health research challenges both through collaboration, and by becoming more comfortable in directing some areas of research. She also described the crafting of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) guidelines for Aboriginal research, stressing the crucial collaboration between CIHR, the Aboriginal community, the Aboriginal Ethics Working Group, and Alberta’s ACADRE Network, with its practical experience in ethics application processes. Laura Arbour, from UBC’s Medical Genetics department, presented cases involving researchers who returned Indigenous groups’ genetic material because it was being used for purposes outside of the groups’ consents. Finally, Louise Fortmann, of the Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management at University of California Berkeley, tied the talks together, introducing the concept of “interdependent science,” made by collaboration of conventional scientists and “civil scientists,” who have little academic training and develop local techniques useful in addressing on-the-ground needs, such as breeding plants for improved food production.

IPinCH is being consulted on real-world situations in intellectual property issues in cultural heritage. Project Director George Nicholas recently received a query from Brent Lane, director of an economic research center at the Kenan Flagler Business School of the University of North Carolina. Writes Brent, “I am working with the Milken Institute on innovations in archaeological finance, with my specific focus being on capitalizing on intangible assets…to generate funding for archaeological management—such as a World Heritage Site licensing images for an exhibition or replica production.” In response to Brent’s query and his detailed explanation of the context and associated issues, team members have contributed thoughtful remarks via email and in our IPinCH website forums.

Team members are encouraged to log in and continue the discussion in the Team Topics Forum under the thread, Capitalizing Intangible Property to Aid in Archaeological Conservation, www.sfu.ca/ipinch/node/631. Other threads under discussion in the Team Topic Forum:

1) use of an Indigenous rock art symbol on oars of a university rowing team: www.sfu.ca/ipinch/node/435
2) public accessibility of an online radiocarbon dating database: www.sfu.ca/ipinch/node/600.
Blackfoot Engagement in Newest IPinCH Case Study

Kainisinni: Protection and Inclusion of Blackfoot Knowledge and Principles in Government Consultations Affecting Our Cultural Heritage explores the intersection of Canadian law, policy, and Blackfoot knowledge associated with archaeological sites and other aspects of cultural landscapes in the context of Alberta consultation policies and guidelines. Canadian law requires federal and provincial governments to consult with First Nations when activities might adversely affect First Nations’ rights, for example when building pipelines or wind farms. The project has been developed in collaboration with and by the Mookaakin Cultural and Heritage Foundation of the Blood Tribe and by Dorothy First Rider (Vice President of the Mookaakin Foundation, Consultation Coordinator, and Traditional Land Use Coordinator, Kainai Nation), Catherine Bell (Professor of Law, University of Alberta), and Michael Klassen (Archaeology Ph.D. student, Simon Fraser University). The study will focus on changes that may be necessary to achieve intercultural dialogue that (1) gives equal and meaningful consideration to Blackfoot ways of knowing and being; and (2) ensures proper use, protection, and control of Blackfoot knowledge shared through the mechanism of Traditional Use Studies.

The IPinCH Steering Committee has also recently reviewed proposals for four additional Community-based Initiatives / Case Studies. As with all proposals reviewed to date, the committee routinely requests various clarifications from the developers. These new studies will be announced as soon as revised proposals are received.

Indigenous People and Museums: Unraveling the Tensions

The WAC Inter-Congress, Indigenous People and Museums: Unraveling the Tensions, will be held June 22–25, 2011, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Originally scheduled for this summer, the conference was postponed by one year, which provides additional opportunities for members of the IPinCH collective to become involved, including developing sessions on the many topics relating to the Inter-Congress theme.

IPinCH Co-investigator Larry Zimmerman is organizing the Inter-Congress on behalf of several museums and organizations, including Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) and the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art.

If you are interested in developing or participating in IPinCH sessions, please contact George Nicholas (nicholas@sfu.ca). For more details on the Inter-Congress, please visit the web site at http://wacmuseums.info or email organizers@wacmuseums.info.

A Sampling of Recent IPinCH Presentations and Publications


Chip Colwell-Chanthaphonh, New IPinCH Scholar Associate

Chip Colwell-Chanthaphonh is Curator of Anthropology at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. His research interests include: Native American ethnology and archaeology, heritage management, collaborative methods, social and political uses of history, repatriation, cultural landscapes, and research ethics. Chip received his Ph.D. from Indiana University and his B.A. from the University of Arizona. Chip sits on the editorial board of *American Anthropologist*, and currently is co-editor of *Museum Anthropology*. He has published more than two-dozen articles and book chapters, and has authored and edited seven books. Recent awards include the 2009 National Council on Public History Book Award and the 2009 Gordon R. Willey Prize of the American Anthropological Association, Archaeology Division.

Alvaro Higueras, New IPinCH Scholar Associate

With a focus in South America and the Balkans, and experience as a United Nations consultant, Alvaro Higueras adds to the project's global scope. Alvaro is currently exploring cultural heritage rights in Peru, where historical and cultural factors have created status differences between Indigenous highland groups and those in the Amazon forest. He has worked on cultural heritage issues in a range of places and frameworks—from Colombia to Eritrea—and on both practical and theoretical levels. In 2000 he served as a Cultural Heritage Officer for the UN mission in Kosovo, working to protect endangered cultural heritage. Alvaro has taught at Simon Fraser University, the Universidad de los Andes in Colombia, and American University of Rome. Alvaro welcomes the opportunity to add his expertise and voice to IPinCH and to contribute to initiatives seeking legal and practical frameworks for cultural heritage management.

Hirofumi Kato, New IPinCH Scholar Associate

Professor Hirofumi Kato has been working to make archaeology relevant to the Indigenous Ainu of northern Japan as co-ordinator of Hokkaido University's Ainu Ethnohistory and Indigenous Archaeology Project, and of the university's Indigenous Education Program. Beginning in 2004, he initiated a community-based archaeology program with the Ainu of Shiretoko Peninsula, establishing a new model of collaborative research in Japan. Hirofumi's interests in intellectual property issues and cultural heritage management, and his work in Japan and the Sakalin Peninsula of Russia merge with those of the IPinCH project, and add to its geographic scope. He has also published extensively on his work in Siberia on topics such as technology, cultural transitions, and migrations. Hirofumi is optimistic that connecting to IPinCH's expertise will lead to benefits for Ainu cultural property rights.

George Smith, New IPinCH Scholar Associate

With experience in cultural heritage management, archaeology curriculum development, and site protection, George Smith adds additional international and interdisciplinary perspectives to our project. He is a registered professional archaeologist and is currently teaching Cultural Heritage Management at Florida State University. George has been Associate Director at the Southeast Archeological Center, a Research Associate in Archaeology and Curator of Archaeology (Acting) at the University of Alaska Museum, an archaeologist with the Cooperative Park Studies Unit, Anthropology and Historic Preservation at the University of Alaska, and worked for the Archeological Assistance Division of the National Park Service. He has served on a wide range of committees related to archaeology and cultural heritage, and published numerous articles and books on these topics.
Melissa Baird, New IPinCH Post-doctoral Fellow Associate

Her research has spanned the globe, but Melissa Baird’s focus has long been rooted in cultural heritage. Melissa received her Ph.D. in 2009 from the University of Oregon for research on the political and social implications of heritage associated with UNESCO World Heritage cultural landscape designations to better understand how knowledge about non-Western groups is produced. Her emphasis on the political and social contexts of archaeology and anthropology stems from her experiences as both an archaeologist and ethnographer in North America, Asia, and Europe. Melissa’s research has ranged from preservation and analysis of rock art and archaeological sites, to working with federally recognized tribes on issues of repatriation. Currently, she is an instructor for the Anthropology and Ethnic Studies departments at the University of Oregon and an expert member of the ICOMOS-ICAHM scientific committee.

Sean Robertson, New IPinCH Graduate Student Associate

The everyday political lives of trademarks, copyrights, and patents is the focus of former lawyer and now SFU doctoral candidate Sean Robertson’s dissertation research. Working in the Department of Geography, Sean is exploring the interactions between international and national laws, the tensions between the public domain and the protection of traditional knowledge, and the politicization of intellectual property. His earlier collaborative research with British Columbia First Nations communities addressed the use of traditional ecological knowledge in political and legal struggles. For his doctoral research, Sean received funding from both SSHRC and the Law Foundation of British Columbia. His supervisor is SFU Geography professor Nicholas Blomley; his committee includes IPinCH Co-investigator Rosemary Coombe (York University).

Joshua Smith, New IPinCH Student Associate

IPinCH’s first undergraduate Student Associate, Joshua Smith, sees action anthropology as a key to addressing contemporary issues, including the decolonization of research methods and Indigenous knowledge rights. Joshua, who recently completed his B.A. degree in Anthropology at the University of Victoria, is focusing on the history and historiography of anthropology, as well as applied research methodologies. He sees the merging of anthropology and political philosophy as a means to overcome cultural barriers to Indigenous and non-Indigenous relations, and to create programs that address issues in education, policy, and development in American Indigenous communities. From his work with IPinCH team member Michael Asch, Joshua sees his association with IPinCH as a great opportunity to learn from experts in the field. He hopes to contribute to the project by exploring current collaborative research projects with Indigenous peoples and sharing the knowledge gained from such projects. This summer, Joshua is moving to London, Ontario, to take up graduate studies at the University of Western Ontario.

New Student Representative on the IPinCH Steering Committee

Please welcome Graduate Student Associate Marina La Salle as our new graduate student representative on the IPinCH Steering Committee. Appointed for a one-year term, Marina will be working to increase student networking and participation in all facets of our project. Initially, she will assist the Steering Committee in shaping her position to best meet student needs. She will participate in Steering Committee meetings, providing advice on whether deliberations seem inclusive of students’ needs and interests. Thanks to Marina, students now have their own webpage on the IPinCH site, where they can find links to all information pertinent to students, and find contact information for student networking.
**PinChHes of News**

IPinCH Graduate Student Associate Kate Hennessy will be joining the SFU Faculty of Interactive Arts and Technology in September 2010. Kate is one member of the team of anthropologists and videographers that accompanied Inuvialuit elders, educators and youth visiting the Smithsonian Institution as part of IPinCH’s Inuvialuit Case Study to repatriate knowledge surrounding artifacts collected from their ancestors in the Anderson River area a century and a half ago.

Australian lawyer and IPinCH team member Terri Janke has recently authored *Writing up Indigenous Research: Authorship, Copyright and Indigenous Knowledge Systems*. Intended to assist those writing the results of Indigenous research, Terri explains copyright, old knowledge, authorship, sacred and secret material and the implications of research methods on Indigenous knowledge systems, outlining the importance of considering authorship in academic research involving Indigenous traditional knowledge. Copies are available for $AUD22 from Lan Pham at Terri Janke & Company: +61 (02) 9693 2577 lan@terrijanke.com.au


The long-anticipated second edition of the *Canadian Tri-council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans* is now due out at the end of the year. Our funder, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, is a member of the Tri-Council. The new guidelines contain an extensive chapter on research with Aboriginal Peoples. As part of the process of developing the new guidelines, the Tri-council’s Panel on Research Ethics requested comments first on a draft and then on a revision of the draft. The IPinCH Steering Committee and Catherine Bell submitted comments on the initial draft, while Kelly Bannister and Brian Noble commented separately on the revised draft. Their comments can be viewed on the IPinCH Position Papers webpage (under Outputs & Resources): http://www.sfu.ca/ipinch/outputs_resources/project_papers

All comments received by the Tri-Council can be viewed on their webpage: http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/eng/policy-politique/participation/comments-commentaires2009/

The beta version of the IPinCH Knowledge Base is open for business with over a thousand entries. We are still working with Simon Fraser University technical staff to refine the search function, but please browse or search the site at www.sfu.ca/kbipinch. Feedback is most welcome. If you would like to comment or contribute to the Knowledge Base, please email the Knowledge Base research assistant at kbipinch@sfu.ca.

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