

## Retired faculty awarded Academic Emeritus Designation

Academic Emeritus designations recognize retired faculty members for significant contributions and exceptional service during their long-term association with the University.

Two retired faculty members, **Dr. Rick Rollins**, Faculty of Management and **Bob Lane**, Faculty of Social Science, received this honour in June.

The award encourages and fosters an ongoing relationship between a teacher, librarian, or scholar and the University after retirement so that the University may benefit from the continuing relationship and the recipient may benefit from using the University name in the context of appropriate scholarly endeavours.

For more information  
on Academic Emeritus  
at VIU please visit:

[www.viu.ca/emeritus](http://www.viu.ca/emeritus)

## Founder of VIU Philosophy department

Bob Lane taught literature and philosophy for 31 years at VIU (then Malaspina College).

He started his teaching career in Oregon, but moved to BC to become one of the first faculty members at the new college on Kennedy Street in 1969.

Lane was a founding member of the Philosophy department “and for years, I was the only member,” he says.

As the institution grew, he became the Founding Director of VIU’s Institute of Practical Philosophy, which is still an active player today in community issues and contemporary moral issues.

For a short while, Lane served as the institution’s Special Events Coordinator, responsible for organizing public arts performances.

“My proudest moments are those where students were involved in intellectual and artistic expressions in the community,” he says.

“I remember teaching a night school class in Parksville and as their final exam, my students performed five of their plays at the Errington Community Hall. The place was packed and the local paper covered the event as though it was a Broadway production. It was great and an example of true community engagement.”

Lane also designed, supported and coordinated new interdisciplinary courses while pursuing his interest in philosophy at the University of California-Santa Barbara and at Simon Fraser University.

In addition to his devotion to his students, Lane

supported his colleagues in many administrative positions, including Area Chair (the equivalent of Dean) and President of the Faculty Association.

Since retiring in 2000, Lane has served as a commissioner on the Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture Board. He also authored a book entitled *Reading the Bible: Intention, Text, Interpretation* and a book of short stories called *Redneck*.

As Academic Emeritus, Lane plans to continue to read and review books, to offer public lectures, to work with the Institute of Practical Philosophy at VIU and to write stories and poems, as well as write for and edit *Episyllogism*, a philosophy blog.

When asked about receiving the Academic Emeritus designation he replied, “June is an important month in my life. I first heard about Malaspina College in June 1969; I received an Outstanding Service Award in June 2008; and just celebrated 60 years of marriage with Karen Lane in June 2015. And now this! It’s quite an honour.”



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— Bob Lane