Research adds up for UBCO math professor

Helmut Bauschke donating $5,000 to endowment fund for research

Steam to The Daily Courier

A mathematician inspired by his elementary school teacher is UBC Okanagan's researcher of the year. Helmut Bauschke is one of Canada's top researchers in the field of optimization—the mathematics of finding the optimal solution to a given problem. His passion for math was sparked by a teacher when he was a child in Germany.

"Mrs. Fischer, back in primary school, was a math teacher who said, 'Math is easy, math is fun,' and I think this had a huge influence on me because I really enjoyed math, and I followed up on it," Bauschke said. He later earned a PhD in mathematics from Simon Fraser University. He taught at the former Okanagan University College and the University of Guelph.

Since joining UBCO in 2006, he has collaborated with colleagues Yves Lucet and Shao Wang to establish the Optimization, Convex Analysis and Non-smooth Analysis (OCANA) group. The research team works on solutions to challenging problems in areas ranging from communications and optics to network flow and the planning of radiation therapy treatments.

Continued on page A4

Brier Sale
Alberta's Kevin Martin wins second straight curling title
-Sports, B1

Monday, March 16, 2009, Kelowna, B.C.

Sliver of optimism at Tolko
By DON PLANT
The Daily Courier

Eighteen Tolko workers go back to their jobs after a one-week shutdown.

Math professor
Continued from page A1

"Bauschke holds a Canada Research Chair in convex analysis and optimization. When I first heard the request for an endowment fund that benefits the outstanding undergraduate student in analysis each year, it seemed to me ..."