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**INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH ON PERMANENT AUTHENTIC RECORDS IN ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS: EXPERIENTIAL, INTERACTIVE, DYNAMIC RECORDS INTERPARES 2 (2002-2006)****Principal Investigator:** Luciana Duranti**Major Sources of Funding:** SSHRC MCRI (Multidisciplinary Collaborative Research Initiative) grant; NSF, NHPRC, UBC**Significance of Research:** The project developed and articulated the concepts, principles, criteria and methods that ensure the creation and maintenance of accurate and reliable records and the long-term preservation of authentic records in the context of artistic, scientific and government activities that are conducted using experiential, interactive and dynamic computer technology. Scholars in the arts and sciences, archivists, artists, scientists, industry specialists and government representatives from around the world (Canada, United States, Australia, China, Singapore, Ireland, United Kingdom, The Netherlands, France, Belgium, Italy), have worked together to undertake the challenge presented by the manipulability and incompatibility of digital systems, technological obsolescence and media fragility and to guarantee that society's digitally recorded memory will be accessible to future generations.**Objectives & Methods:** The objectives of the project were: 1) to develop an understanding of experiential, interactive and dynamic information systems, of the records produced and maintained within them, and of their present and potential use in artistic, scientific and e-government sectors; 2) to formulate methods for ensuring that these records are generated and maintained by the creator in a way that guarantees their accuracy, reliability and authenticity; 3) to formulate methods for selecting these records for long-term preservation in a way that guarantees that the authentic records are identified, monitored, and maintained with their identity and integrity intact until they are transferred to the responsibility of the preserver; 4) to develop methods and strategies for the long-term preservation of the authenticity of the selected records; 5) to identify and/or develop specifications for policy, metadata, and tools appropriate for the design of electronic infrastructures ensuring that these records are created accurate and reliable, and maintained and preserved authentic; and 6) to develop criteria for evaluating advanced technologies appropriate for implementing the above objectives, in ways that respect cultural diversity and pluralism. As a multidisciplinary collaboration, InterPARES 2 applied a multi-method approach to the development of concepts, processes and tools that will help in the securing of a protected and lasting environment for the digital records. Inspired by the principles of interdisciplinarity, transferability, and open inquiry, the project used surveys, case studies, modeling, prototyping, diplomatic and archival analysis, and text analysis. The research was guided by the research questions organized by domain and cross-domain that were developed by the international team.**Related Links:**

- [www.interpares.org](http://www.interpares.org)
- <http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/us-interpares/index.htm>
- <http://www.lcs.gov.bc.ca/CIMB/InterPARES/default.htm>

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