

THE DOG STORY | MARTHA: THE WOMAN WITH THE JUMPER CABLES | ALUMNI NEWS AND EVENTS

Trek ^{I4}

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National Wildlife Federation Recognizes UBC For Leadership in Campus Sustainability

The National Wildlife Federation, North America's largest wildlife conservation agency, has presented UBC with a Campus Ecology Recognition Award for sustainability initiatives.

As part of this honour, the Federation has created the Campus Ecology Yearbook, available on its website www.nwf.org, which offers a comprehensive look at UBC's sustainability efforts during the 2004/2005 academic year.

UBC is on track to meet and surpass the Kyoto Protocol's 2012 target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 25 per cent. UBC is the only Canadian university in North America to receive this recognition.



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TAKE NOTE

It's Not Written in Stone

■ Living in the digital age, you might think that the fragility of acidic paper is no longer an issue in the preservation of data. But electronic storage of information comes with its own challenges. Its impermanent nature is one of these.

Methods for digital recording and storage rapidly become obsolete – think 5½ inch floppies – and in order to preserve and retrieve records they must be migrated from older to newer technologies. The intangibility of the electronic material and the potential technological pitfalls involved in migration make it vulnerable to alteration. Whereas paper records are all about preservation, digital record-keeping is more about faithful reproduction and re-storage than maintenance of the original format. Still another issue is that outdated (but potentially useful) electronic data tend to get updated rather than archived.

Professor Luciana Duranti is chair of Archival Studies at the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies. She is leading an international effort to explore and tackle the issues



Here Today, Gone Tomorrow: Luciana Duranti is leading an international effort to tackle the archival issues surrounding digital information storage.

involved in electronic data storage. The International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems (InterPARES) Project group is working to establish guidelines and standards for how information is recorded and kept so that it may be more easily migrated with minimal threat to its integrity. This will be of paramount importance in areas like health care records.

Duranti is seeking input from many quarters, and experts in archival systems from 20 countries are involved in the project. China (one of the project's funders) has already adopted some InterPARES recommendations on authenticity requirements as law. The InterPARES Project has also received funding from, among other sources, the Social Sci-

ences and Humanities Research Council of Canada's Major Collaborative Research Initiatives (SSHRC-MCRI) and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

At War with HIV/AIDS

■ UBC nursing students are researching HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention while providing medical care in South Africa's Eastern Cape. Fourth-year students Nash Dhalla and Sarah Rohde are spending a six week practicum in urban hospitals and rural clinics here where the HIV infection rate is over 20 per cent. "The huge incidence of the disease can seem overwhelming," says Dhalla, "but I believe it's possible to make a difference."

As part of their program, Dhalla and

Rohde will be working on the Phelophepa Health Train – South Africa's "Train of Hope" – with a multidisciplinary team bringing basic medical, dental, and eye care to remote areas of the country. They will be joining the train for the Eastern Cape part of the journey, studying the role community nursing can play in HIV/AIDS-related education, prevention, treatment and support. They will also examine the effects of traditional healing beliefs of the local Xhosa people.

Both students have previous experience working with medicine on the margins. Rohde spent time working with refugees in India before pursuing nursing. Dhalla, with nine years' experience as a TB outreach worker in Vancouver's AIDS-plagued Downtown Eastside, has seen the positive