

AABC Newsletter

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How to join the AABC
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The AABC Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Archives Association of British Columbia. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the AABC.

Got news? Send AABC news, tips, suggestions or letters to the editor: [Jennifer Jansen](mailto:jensan@aabc.bc.ca)

Deadlines for each issue are one month prior to publication.

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Next Issue:
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Please supply all submissions in electronic format, as either .txt, WP7, WORD 97/2000/XP or via e-mail

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Dr. Luciana Duranti Receives Jacob Biely Prize



Dr. Duranti receiving Jacob Biely Prize from UBC President Stephen Toope

Luciana Duranti, Professor in the graduate archival programs at the University of British Columbia (UBC) School of Library, Archival and Information Studies (in the photo with UBC President Stephen Toope), has been honored with the Jacob Biely Faculty Research Prize and with the appointment to the Italian Supreme Council for Cultural Properties by the Italian government.

The Jacob Biely Prize is regarded as the UBC's premier research prize and the top honor of its type in the province. It is awarded annually to a faculty member who has conducted outstanding research in any field. Duranti is being cited for "her enormous and outstanding research contributions to the field of archival studies."

The Italy Consiglio Superiore per i Beni Culturali e Paesaggistici (Supreme Council for Cultural and Landscape Properties) is composed of the presidents of scientific committees on archives, libraries, the arts (museums, galleries, etc.), architecture and landscape (elected by the members of the respective professions) and eight eminent personalities in the world of culture directly appointed by the government.. The Council meets regularly to provide mandatory advice (binding for some matters) to the government of Italy on national programs and budgets, planning, international agreements and legislation related to cultural properties in general and the landscape.

Please direct inquiries to Randy Preston at rpreston@interchange.ubc.ca

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Upcoming Training Opportunities

The AABC offers training and workshops through our BCAPS and EAS programs. However, there are also some great training opportunities offered by other agencies that are relevant to the work we do. Here are a couple of courses that may be of interest to our members.

LANGARA COLLEGE - Online course

LIBR 1395 Special Topics Creating and Managing Digital Collections

The key elements of managing digital collections are explored through discussion, hands-on practice, and project based activities. Topics covered include project development, selection and electronic processing of materials, copyright, description (cataloguing and metadata), electronic access and preservation.

Please contact Carol Elder at celder@langara.bc.ca for more information, or for non-departmental students, to arrange registration.

Carol Elder, Chair, Library & Information Technology Program Langara College, 100 West 49th Avenue Vancouver, BC V5Y 2Z6, Phone: 604-323-5862 Fax: 604-323-5010, celder@langara.bc.ca

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

Join the Cultural Resource Management Program at the University of Victoria for the following 6-day learning opportunity hosted in Victoria, BC :

MANAGING ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS

Many museums hold archival materials including documents and photographs that require specialized care and management. This new course focuses on archives as an important component of museum collections and develops your understanding of ways in which they should be organized, managed, preserved and shared. While there is common ground between the management of artifacts and the management of archives, recognizing the distinctions is important to caring effectively for documentary materials and increasing their role in the museum environment. Regardless of the kind of institution you work in, this course strengthens your understanding of

- the nature of archival materials
- theories, principles, and practices governing archival management
- legal, administrative, and professional frameworks
- appraisal, acquisition, and accessioning of archives

- arrangement and description, including the application of archival descriptive standards
- physical processing, storage, conservation, and preservation
- reference services and access issues
- using archives to enhance exhibits, educational offerings, and outreach initiatives
- the role of archives in culture and heritage

Dates: June 18 – 23, 2007, with a preparatory assignment

Please register by: May 22 at https://www.uvcs.uvic.ca/forms/crm/online_reg.aspx

Instructor: Laura Millar has been an archival, editorial, and educational consultant for over 20 years. She received her Master of Archival Studies degree from the University of British Columbia, Canada, in 1984 and her PhD in archival studies from the University of London, England, in 1996. She is the author of over 40 professional publications on a range of topics, including records and archives management; information systems; and editing, publishing, and writing. Laura has worked with international agencies such as the International Records Management Trust, the United Nations, and the World Bank, and with governments around the world,

Fee: CDN\$610 including a CDN\$60 materials fee (Canadian funds, credit and non-credit). A \$160 CDN registration deposit is required at the time of registration

Draft Course Outline

Monday: Understanding the jargon: an overview of archival operations

- introductions
- course overview: objectives, outline, assignments, activities
- different types of archival collections and archival institutions
- the role and duties of the archivist
- the "archival system" in Canada
- the organizational framework: legislation, policies, standards, and guidelines

Tuesday: Getting started: acquiring and accessioning archival materials

- theories, principles, and practices governing archival management
- appraisal of archival materials: appraisal for acquisition and appraisal for selection
- developing acquisition policies and procedures
- accessioning archives: legal and administrative issues

Wednesday: Balancing theory and practice: arrangement and description

- levels of arrangement
- arranging archives physically and intellectually
- levels of description
- types of finding aids
- coordinating archival and museum descriptions
- archival tour 1

Thursday: Descriptive standards: the key to information sharing

- understanding Rules for Archival Description (RAD)
- applying RAD to archival materials
- creating online descriptive tools

- contributing archival descriptions to the Canadian archival network

Friday: Making it safe, making it accessible

- physical handling and processing
- storing archives
- conservation and preservation issues
- reference policies and procedures
- archival tour 2

Saturday: Using archives: tools for fostering culture and heritage

- using archives for exhibits, education, and outreach
- the relationship between archives, museums, and intangible heritage
- the role of archives in heritage tourism, genealogy, and popular history
- forging closer ties between museums and archives
- the future of archives in an electronic age

For more information on this and other upcoming courses please contact:

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Cultural Resource Management Program www.uvcs.uvic.ca/crmp

Aboriginal Language Revitalization Program www.uvcs.uvic.ca/calr

Intercultural Education and Training Program www.uvcs.uvic.ca/iet

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Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada – Records Search

Indian Residential School Resolution Canada (IRSRC) is a federal department dedicated to resolving issues arising from the legacy of Indian residential schools. IRSRC has identified some gaps in its document collections is therefore extending the scope of research to community archives in an attempt to fill these gaps. Documents sought are those containing student and/or staff names. Examples of document types include yearbooks, newsletters, quarterly returns, half-yearly returns, enrolment registers, student registers, admission and discharge documents, reunion books and prize lists that provide student and/or staff information. Photos are potentially useful, provided that they are captioned and it is known who provided the caption and when it was captioned.

IRSRC welcomes any information on relevant archival material in your collections, and any suggestions as to relevant repositories. Please note that all Federal Archives, Provincial Archives, native centres and religious archives have been considered in a separate phase of research.

For more information on IRSRC, please see: www.irsr-rqpi.gc.ca/english/index.html

For more information on the Indian residential schools settlement process, please see: www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca/

Please direct comments to Alison Biely, Research Consultant, IRSRC at 604-775-9986 or bielya@irsr-rqpi.gc.ca.

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Planning for the Future

Lisa Codd, AABC President

Preserving the past is a complicated business. Our clients and visitors are often drawn to museums, archives, and heritage sites to find comfort in connecting themselves to history. Families visit historic sites so parents and grandparents can share stories about the past with children. Genealogists access archives to find the documents that tell them who they are, and where they came from. While these visitors seek comfort and stability in our product, behind the scenes our organizations can be anything but comfortable and stable.

While we are busy preserving the past, who is making sure our associations, archives, museums, and historical societies are going to continue into the future? As a sector, we are facing many challenges. Funding from government is less certain, and we have seen cuts to federal programs such as the Museums Assistance Program (MAP), and student employment programs that we rely on. Volunteerism is in decline in our society, especially among the types of volunteers we rely on. Succession planning is a challenge for many organizations as the baby boomers retire and as long-serving board members and volunteers face burn-out. Our legal and administrative world is more complicated, as a variety of regulatory frameworks from firearms licensing to privacy legislation influence our museums and archives.

This past year, the Archives Association of BC has been working toward implementing strategic planning as a way to sustain our organization in the face of a changing business environment. The work has shown the value in taking the time to assess the challenges we are facing, and bring people together to find solutions. With funding from the Centre for Sustainability's Arts Partners in Organizational Development (ArtsPOD) program, we were able to work with a consultant to complete an organizational assessment. This helpful tool provides an assessment of what is working in the organization, and what is not. It helps people agree on realistic steps that can be taken to begin implementing change.

Recently, we have embarked on the next step in our journey: with additional support from ArtsPOD and the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre we are undertaking a strategic plan. A strategic planning committee, made up of myself, incoming treasurer Sharon Walz, and past presidents Anthea Seles, Lara Wilson, Chris Hives, and Jane Turner have been working with consultant Rick Knowlan. The plan is being reviewed at various stages by key members, including regional representatives. The plan will help us develop concrete plans for the next three to five years, and includes a review of our mission, goals, and strategies. We are looking at all aspects of the organization, including our governance structure and services.

Most importantly, we are getting together to talk and work together on solutions that will work for the organization. Those of us in the business of preserving the past often forget that an organization is made up of people: the collections we care for and programs we offer are the by-product of strong and sustainable organizations.

More information about the ArtsPOD programs can be found at: www.centreforsustainability.ca

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