



LABORATORY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL  
NARRATIVE STRATEGIES

# STORIES FOR A CHANGING PLANET

**UCLA**

Institute of the Environment  
and Sustainability



# STORY OF LENS

The Laboratory for Environmental Narrative Strategies at UCLA's Institute of the Environment and Sustainability experiments with innovative strategies for creating new narratives and images to help build a more sustainable world for humans and the many species that inhabit the planet with us.

LENS brings together a vibrant network of faculty and students who are working to understand how environmental issues that confront today's societies connect to long histories of human development and human imagination of the natural world. At LENS, we begin with the idea that these challenges are as much cultural and political as they are scientific and technological. We conduct research, teach new leaders, and contribute to the stories that different cultures use to communicate ecological knowledge, respond to environmental challenges, and create the world of the future.



**UCLA STUDENTS IN THE IOES  
SENIOR CAPSTONE PRACTICUM**

## FACULTY CO-FOUNDERS

### ALLISON CARRUTH

- Associate Professor of English
- Faculty Affiliate, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability
- Faculty Member, Institute for Society and Genetics

### JON CHRISTENSEN

- Adjunct Assistant Professor and Journalist-in-Residence
- Institute of the Environment and Sustainability,  
Department of History, Center for Digital Humanities

### URSULA K. HEISE

- Professor of English
- Marcia H. Howard Chair in Literary Studies
- Faculty Affiliate, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability

## WHAT WE DO

- Understanding environmental stories across cultures and contexts
- Researching the impact of environmental media and communications
- Teaching multimedia storytelling
- Mentoring future sustainability leaders in effective communication
- Creating new narratives for environmental science, policy, and advocacy
- Collaborating with nonprofits, companies, and community groups to create strategic environmental communication campaigns

# HOW TO SUPPORT LENS

- Support a postdoctoral fellowship  
(\$60,000 per year)
- Support a PhD student  
(\$15,000+)
- Invest in innovative courses  
(\$5,000+)
- Sponsor undergraduate research and internship opportunities  
(\$2,500+)
- Invest in faculty collaborations and projects  
(\$2,500+)
- Underwrite a public lecture, symposium, or workshop  
(\$1,000+)
- Become a sustaining member of LENS  
(Recurring donations)

LENS would like to thank our founding donors for their generous support: Susan and Dan Gottlieb, Marcia H. Howard, and Hollis Lenderking.

For more information, contact:

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Cover photo courtesy of bitforms gallery, New York  
Marina Zurkow  
Mesocosm (Wink, TX), 2012  
Custom software-driven hand-drawn animation • 146-hour cycle  
(24-minute day, 146-hour year) • Color, sound, computer •  
Display dimensions variable • Edition 1 of 5

Design of this brochure was donated by Bixler Communications Group.  
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Printed on Forest Stewardship Council-certified paper.

