"We may have a small energy footprint," said Niles Barnes, “but we have a 100 percent educational footprint.”

Barnes, the senior programs coordinator for the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), was quoted in the NY Times article “The Greening of Canadian Campuses” about the fact that education accounts for a tiny fraction of the world’s environmental footprint and yet educational institutions are signing on to values statements and action plans that promote sustainable operations and education.

UVic’s former president David Turpin was one of the founding signatories to the University and College Presidents’ Climate Change Statement of Action for Canada. Now, UVic is also a participant in AASHE, which means that the university as a whole is undertaking several of the initiatives that Gustavson has been doing for several years. UVic already does a great job of measuring and reducing waste and energy campus wide, and now will also measure sustainability within courses and research, for example.

Three out of five managers are pressured to behave unethically at work, according to new research by ILM and BITC, which found that unethical practice is common in UK workplaces, despite rising public expectations.

- 9% of managers have been asked to break the law at work
- 10% have left jobs as a result of being asked to do something that made them uncomfortable
- 27% were concerned they would be negatively affected if they were to report an ethical breach

“[Salvation Army Thrift Stores embody] the triple bottom line of people, profit and planet more thoroughly than any other I’m aware of,” according to Michelle Holliday, founder of the branding and communications consulting firm Cambium. “Like other national retail chains, the Thrift Stores are firmly focused on making money...but Thrift Store managers also face a few important twists. Their merchandise is unpredictable from one day to the next. It arrives sporadically throughout each day. And it must all be sorted on the spot into what can be sold, what can be recycled and what cannot be salvaged.”

In 2011, the Thrift Stores helped divert more than 32 million pounds from Canadian landfills, including:
- 22,545,016 pounds of clothing
- 629,490 pounds of cardboard
- 398,663 pounds of shoes
- 40,702 pounds of toys
- 1,906,914 pounds of scrap metal
- 2,660,885 pounds of books
- 3,777,260 pounds of electronics
- 19,104 pounds of plastic
- 34,917 pounds of copper

Recycling is not a feel-good story if the process involves child labour and environmental contamination from asbestos, heavy metals, and PCBs. Pros and cons and regulatory changes in “EU approves compromise on 'shipbreaking' in South Asian countries,” UPI.com, July 1, 2013. Heartrending companion song (not included): So Far from the Clyde by Mark Knopfler.

Please check the Links section of CSSI’s website for a few of the many fascinating items that don’t fit in the Communiqué.

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