



Annual Report 2006 ARLIS/NA Liaison to American Library Association

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ALA conference 2006 – New Orleans.

1. ARLIS/NA staffed the Affiliates booth, free space supplied by ALA, for about 5 hours. Volunteers included Jeanne Brown, Ida da Roza, Rebecca Friedman, and Andrea Goldstein. There were several additional volunteers but circumstances prevented them from actually staffing the booth. HQ sent the last four publications and an issue of Art Documentation to display at the booth. However there was no "sample" designation on the publications, and the *Core Competencies* publication was taken from the booth. *I would recommend that we not include publications in future booths, unless we are prepared to lose them.* However, one of the volunteers did find having the materials useful.

The traffic at the booth was sparse. There are several possible explanations, the most likely being that the professional booths are always at the far end of the exhibits and not on the way to anywhere! *It would be preferable to have two volunteers scheduled for each time period, although that is often not possible.*

The ARLIS/NA banner was not displayed this year due to the timing on my leaving New Orleans, and the bulkiness of the heavy plastic format. It is a disadvantage not to have the organization's name clearly displayed, since so many exhibit goers give you just one glance to see who you are and if they aren't captured in that glance they move along. *I would suggest a light weight nylon banner to replace the heavy plastic.* It will be much easier/cheaper to ship and/or carry home in one's bag. The approximate cost is \$500. *Alternately I am exploring options with ALA to have identification for individual associations that staff the Affiliates booth.*

Two volunteers to the booth reported seeing the incoming ALA President L. Roy, and talking to her at the booth. Nice visibility.

One of our volunteers was impressed by the membership half-price sale offered by the Chinese American Librarians Association. *The Board may want to consider that as an option!*

2. Since the Affiliates booth was near the ALISE booth (library school faculty) I took over the *Core Competencies* title to show them. They were very interested. Hopefully they will order the title. One of the faculty took about 20 "Careers" brochures back to her institution. I assume we are sending these brochures to the library schools (but someone may want to verify); *I would suggest that we also discuss sending them to art schools.*

3. As liaison to ALA I attended the Affiliates meeting. I reported on several ARLIS/NA initiatives I thought would be of interest to other associations, including the Core competencies initiative, and our conferences. I also reported that we are no longer

IFLA members due to rising costs, and got several comments agreeing that the hikes were outrageous. Announcements of interest to ARLIS/NA from the other affiliates include: *the Medical Library Association has produced a recruitment DVD that they are sending to library schools; the Canadian Library Association has completed its recruitment study and posted information at infonation.ca; both ALA and CLA have recruitment sites (librarycareers.org for ALA and librarycareers.ca for CLA); IFLA will be in Canada in 2008 – Quebec City (you will remember that ARLIS participated in the Boston IFLA, however our withdrawal from IFLA membership may preclude that); Beta Phi Mu gives its speakers the opportunity to donate honoraria to a scholarship fund; ALA is looking into creating a virtual classroom – spaces for learning; and ALA has posted a wiki to the ALA site.*

4. The Affiliates brochure has been corrected to include the Art Libraries Society of North America (you may remember that we were not listed last year due to non-payment of dues).

5. I talked to Elizabeth Dreazen from ALA about how to ensure our conference is listed in the *American Libraries* Datebook. She suggested I email her for follow up, but before I do so I will check on ARLIS procedures for getting info to *American Libraries*. [Passed this on to ARLIS Past President.]

6. I attended the Arts Section meeting and discussed with Shannon van Kirk the possibility of a collaborative project between Arts Section and ARLIS/NA. We discussed possibly *a task force to identify issues of joint interest, and to clarify the distinctions between the two groups*. At her request I checked with the Affiliates coordinator, and she indicated that ALA would do its best to facilitate such collaboration, including allowing non-ALA members to use ALA's online community software. Should the Arts Section pursue the joint work group, I will follow up with ALA on the procedures. [Shannon has subsequently been involved in taking a new job. We will discuss this again at the 2007 conference in Washington.]

News from the Arts Section of interest to ARLIS/NA includes: *ACRL has set up online community software to facilitate the section accomplishing its work online; the survey of ALA members has been tabulated and a subset of results applicable to the Arts Section delivered to the Executive Committee; ALA provided the Arts Section a list of assumptions for the future, from which they have chosen those they believe hold true for Section members; and the Executive Committee is discussing the advisability and feasibility of adding any new members to the Arts Section listserv.*

Post ALA conference

7. The Affiliates Group decided to submit a program for the 2007 ALA in Washington. I volunteered to be on the planning task force. The program on advocacy was accepted. I will serve as moderator.

******Suggestions and other items of interest to the Board are in italics above.***