



Annual Report 2006 **ARLIS/NA Liaison to the Special Libraries Association**

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The role of a liaison is to be a conduit of information between two organizations. I have tried to represent ARLIS/NA at SLA conferences and chapter functions and have posted information concerning ARLIS/NA to my SLA colleagues

This past year I attended the Annual Conference of SLA in Baltimore. I was able to place ARLIS/NA membership brochures in the main registration area.

This year I was able to attend the business meeting and several sessions of the Museum Arts and Humanities Division (MAHD). This is the Division whose membership most closely aligns with ARLIS/NA.

The SLA annual conference is structured so that sessions are sponsored by the Divisions or other subunits of the larger organization. At the MAHD business meeting they were already planning sessions for the 2007 conference in Denver. So any collaboration will probably need to start two years in advance. The 2008 conference will be in Seattle and the 2009 conference will be in Washington DC. The 2009 conference will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the organization.

At the local chapter level, I again included information on ARLIS/NA at our St. Louis Library Career Networking Reception. As the local chapter President I attended a recruitment session for the library school at the University of Missouri, Columbia where I was able to discuss librarianship and leave brochures from both organizations.

Because SLA does not have an electronic distribution list sharing information between the two organizations has been difficult. All the information has to be re-packaged for ARLIS-L. SLA has uses their website as a conduit of information much of it available to members only. They use Communities of Practice software and blogs to communicate. Also, most division and chapter newsletters are online either in PDF or HTML format.

SLA has purposely redesigned their website and offerings to enhance service to members. They have concentrated on professional development, recruitment and networking.