



**Art Libraries Society of North America, 34th Annual Conference
Fairmont Banff Springs, Banff, Alberta, Canada, May 5-9, 2006**

**Membership Committee Meeting
Saturday, May 6, 2006, 6:00-7:30 PM**

Present: Craig Fleming, Shalimar Fojas, Janine Henri (Chair), Vanessa Kam, Peggy Keeran (Board Liaison), Marilyn Nasserden, Alyssa Resnick, Rachel Resnik.

Recorder: Janine Henri, University of Texas at Austin

Minutes:

After introductions, committee members were reminded that 2005/06 committee activities were outlined in the annual report.

Janine Henri reported on the results of the non-renewals survey. Thirteen non-renewals and one renewing member elected to fill out the survey. In addition some prior members responded by rejoining ARLIS/NA. Thus this survey does not represent a valid statistical sample. Some survey respondents commented that they found ARLIS/NA members too snobby and/or not welcoming. Others found it difficult to attend meetings or participate in the society. A number of non-renewals were not able to find employment in the art library field or had left the field. Cost of membership was a factor for some in deciding not to renew, as was the fact that one's employer was a subscriber. The listserv, conferences, professional contacts, and publications were what former members liked the best about our society. The fact that we are an art-related organization was important to some, though we were also criticized for not being enough about art. Networking opportunities were mentioned as important benefits, and the lack of opportunities to 'associate' was bemoaned. More support for students and more mentorship of first time members were desired. Keeping the organization simple was recommended since numerous divisions, listservs, committees can fragment the organization and may leave some members feeling overlooked.

Rachel Resnik reported on her survey of membership benefits at comparable associations (see attached report). The committee decided to pursue the possibility of member discounts for ARLIS/NA publications and the possibility of negotiating museum entrance and museum bookstore discounts. We discussed requiring a subscription fee for access to the listserv, but were informed that this could not happen as long as the current university hosts the listserv. Other ideas discussed included ways of educating librarians (professional development & training; disseminating workshop content; a visual literacy course?), including fee-based streaming videos and a mentoring DVD. An instructional design task force might best address some of these suggestions.

Board Liaisons Peggy Keeran and Marilyn Nasserden reported on the need to increase membership dues and to devise a tiered membership approach with differing levels of benefits. The committee needs to devise a plan to un-bundle

membership services and should submit this plan to the Board by September 1. Other Board issues that may affect committee activities include a proposed RFP for revamping the society website. We should inform our liaison if we need committee web space on the AWS. Committee members were also reminded to submit a budget proposal to print membership brochures.

One question raised by the committee for the Board was whether we can feature business members on the "What Our Members are Saying" feature on the website.

Outgoing 2005/06 Committee members (Elise Brown, Susan Malkoff Moon, Jennifer Parker, and Board Liaison Peggy Keeran) were thanked for their service to the Society.

2006/07 Membership Committee members:

Margaret Boylan (m_boylan@hotmail.com), carryover from 2003, 2004, 2005

Jon Evans (jevans@mfah.org)

Shalimar Fojas (saf@artstor.org)

Janine Henri (jhenri@mail.utexas.edu), carryover from 2004 & 2005

Vanessa Kam (d.vanessa.kam@ubc.ca)

Alyssa Resnick (aresnick@ci.glendale.ca.us), carryover from 2005

Rachel Resnik (rresnik@massart.edu), carryover from 2005, Chair

Board Liaison: Marilyn Nasserden (marilyn.nasserden@ucalgary.ca)

Comparison of Membership Benefits

ARLIS/NA, ALA, CAA, IFLA, SAA, VRA, SLA, AAM

Submitted by: Rachel Resnik

Subscription to organization's journal

ARLIS/NA (Art Documentation), ALA (American Libraries), CAA (Art Bulletin and Art Journal), IFLA (IFLA Journal), SAA (American Archivist), VRA (VRA Bulletin), SLA (Information Outlook), AAM (Museum News),

Newsletter

ALA (for divisions or round tables), CAA, SAA, AAM

Listserv

ALA (no primary listserv, several options—some require membership), VRA (requires membership), many organizations offer a primary listserv or section listservs that are open to the public

Member Directory

CAA, SAA, VRA

Free Local Chapter Membership

SLA

Job Listings

Membership not required: ARLIS/NA, ALA, SAA, VRA, SLA, AAM

Membership required: CAA

Discounted rates for organization-published books/magazines

ALA (save 10%), IFLA (50%), SAA (% varies), SLA (% not listed), VRA (membership page claim—no other info on website)

Discounted rates on other books/magazines

CAA (over 50 art periodicals), SAA (% varies), AAM

Discounted Rate for annual conference

All

Courses/Workshop Discounts

ALA (1500 e-learning courses available), SAA (workshops), VRA (workshops and Summer Institute), SLA (courses through Professional Development Center), AAM (professional education seminars)

Discounted Insurance

ALA (health, life, homeowner, and auto), CAA (health)

Discounted car rental

ALA

Free or discounted admission to museums

AAM

Expandable Benefits—give more, get more benefits for individuals

AAM unclear how this works from the membership renewal form

- invitation to donor reception
- health insurance
- hotel rates
- long distance and internet access
- rental car

Institutional Member Benefits Highlights

- ALA
 - 4imprint promotional products 10% discount
 - Oprah Book Club releases free to public, secondary school, and community college libraries
 - insurance for collections, buildings
 - discount on job postings
- CAA
 - discount on job postings
 - discount on advertising in CAA News
 - free reception room at annual conference
- AAM
 - discount job postings
 - all staff eligible for discounted membership
 - magnet mail email marketing solutions
 - museum insurance
 - shipping from DHL
 - exhibition and household moving

Corporate Member Benefit Highlights

- ALA
 - preferred exhibit booth assignment for conference
 - discount on rental of mailing list

CAA --discount on advertising in publications
--discount on mailing list rental
--discount on booths at conference
AAM --benefits similar to those for Institutional membership