



35th Annual Conference
Sheraton Colony Square, Atlanta, Georgia, April 26-May 1

Diversity Committee Meeting Minutes

ARLIS/NA Annual Conference

Atlanta, April 27, 2007

Recorder: D. Vanessa Kam, University of British Columbia

Members Present: Laurel Bliss (Co-chair), Vanessa Kam (Co-Chair), Marta Gonzalez Palacios, Krista Ivy, Eumie Imm-Stroukoff (Executive Board liaison)

Members not Present: Hannah Bennett, Dorothy Tao, and Alessia Zanin-Yost

Agenda

- 1) Member introduction. New member Krista Ivy from UC Riverside introduced herself.
- 2) On behalf of the ARLIS/NA Executive Board, a call for news items was made. The Diversity Committee doesn't have any news items at the moment, but will think of this for the future.
- 3) Recap of Diversity Committee activities last year.
- 4) Recap of the Diversity Committee program session titled *Expanding Horizons: Developing and Accessing Diverse Collections*. The committee felt that the session went really well, with more than fifty people in attendance and standing-room only. Judy Dyki approached the presenters with the option of publishing their talks in *Art Documentation*. The articles could be published individually or as a diversity themed issue.

ACTION: Regarding a themed issue for *Art Documentation*, Vanessa will ask Judy Dyki about how she feels about it. Presentations might also be made available on the ARLIS/NA website.
- 5) Brainstorm for ARLIS/NA Diversity Forum to be held on Sunday, April 29. The suggestion was made to try to increase diversity in the profession by starting at the library school level. This would require working with ARLIS/NA committees like the Membership Committee and dialoging with lots of different groups. The ARLIS/NA Student Affairs Discussion Group's ArLiSNAP blog could also be a place to raise issues of diversity.

Eumie attended the new first time attendee meeting with students. She found the group to be dynamic and energetic and she confirmed that the Student Affairs Discussion Group would be a good group for the Diversity Committee to liase with.

The idea that Diversity Committee members should be mentors to the Diversity Travel award winner as well as other international attendees was raised and that in this regard, it would be good for ARLIS/NA members to be able to list any specific language skills (possibly through Member click) they would have to offer to international attendees. Krista mentioned that the International Relations Committee might also be a good group to liase with.

ACTION: Krista will contact the International Relations Committee members to see if the Diversity Committee could collaborate with them to raise diversity issues and mentorship possibilities.

ACTION: A Diversity Committee should volunteer to liase with the Student Affairs Discussion Group to discuss the potential of a discussion/involvement with diversity issues.

It was mentioned that the Diversity Forum has sometimes been a free flowing forum and that the committee might think of a different structure for the forum in Denver. Perhaps we could host a speaker and then a discussion afterwards.

ACTION: A Diversity Committee member should contact someone on the planning committee for the Denver conference and see if there are local speaker we might want to invite to speak at the Diversity Forum.

ACTION: Contact ALA also about Diversity speaker possibilities – Laurel will do this.

6) Items to work on for next year. Having a Diversity Committee web site on the ARLIS/NA site.

ACTION: Krista volunteered to look into this.

Liaisons. Are any Diversity Committee members interested in being our ALA Diversity committee liaison? Are there other relevant groups to make contact with? A possible liaison with Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM? Someone to attend the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color meeting? SPECTRUM meetings. We also need to liase with the Canadian part of the organization. BCLA and CLA.

ACTION: Marta Palacios-Gonzalez will volunteer to look liaising with Canadian library groups. The Diversity Committee needs members to volunteer to liase with other groups listed above.