



**35<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**  
**Sheraton Colony Square, Atlanta, Georgia, April 26-May 1**

**Decorative Arts Roundtable Meeting**  
**Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 – 6:30 pm**

**Attendees:**

Beth Nylén  
Elizabeth Gulacsy  
Amy Ciccone  
Linda Duychak  
Greta Earnest  
Heather Topcik  
Karyn Hinkle

Erin Elliott  
Rebecca Friedman  
Kathy Woodrell  
Cate Cooney  
Linda Seckelson  
Kristen Regina  
Mary Stark

- 1. ARLIS/NA Assessment Task Force recommendations**
  - a. We spent quite a bit of time discussing the ATF recommendations and the pros and cons of being a “round table” vs. a self-scheduled “interest group”. Some of the issue has to do with the types of hotels that can be booked for conferences. Amy Ciccone has had a lot of experience planning conferences and offered insights. Cate Cooney, as a board member, was looking for feedback on the proposed changes. Ultimately, the group decided to continue on as is (whatever we end up being called) and felt that having to answer to the board in terms of report deadlines was actually a motivating factor.
  
- 2. 2006-2007 DART projects**
  - a. Erin Elliott distributed a list of DART goals that were compiled after the 2006 Banff conference:
    - i. The main goal for DART is to create a web presence in order to have an online forum for information about our members, to pool our resources and to be a source of information about academic programs in the field. Erin spoke with Nedda Ahmed about ARLISNA hosting the site and after some discussion about various hosting possibilities, it was agreed that it makes the most sense to have ARLIS host. Heather will pursue this further. Elizabeth G. suggested using de.li.ci.ous to organize web links. Because there are so many possibilities, we decided to get a basic web site going and improve on it from there. Heather is going to work on that over the

summer. We will look at other ARLIS/NA hosted websites (academic division and public policy) to get inspiration.

- ii. Also discussed were other DART goals such as making student theses available, compiling information on educational opportunities in the decorative arts, compiling vertical files on little known in-house resources that may be of interest to researchers, and developing links to international repositories. All of these topics will eventually be included in the DART web presence.

### **3. 2008 Conference session proposals**

- a. Stephen Van Dyk sent along a list of possible Denver conference sessions:
  - i. Decorative arts and local interest: Van Briggles pottery
  - ii. Sample books and decorative arts serials as objects of research value
  - iii. Digitizing key titles in design and decorative arts – current and future projects.
- b. Erin Elliott and Greta Earnest would like to do a fashion session.
- c. Other possible suggestions from group discussion: State of the field of decorative arts, metadata, inadequacy of vocabularies and standards for the decorative arts.

### **4. Institutional reports / updates**

- a. The Frick Art Reference Library is now collecting in the decorative arts.
- b. Stephen Van Dyk, who was not able to attend, sent a written update:

"A report of CHM Library: Continue to work on digital projects: One called SIL on Display - these feature rare parts of our collection i.e. pochoir and Czech & German book jackets of the 1920s-1930s. We are currently working on digitizing a rare set of photographs illustrating Art Deco style objects from our manuscript collection. The other digital projects called SIL Digital Editions - where we digitize a rare book, trade catalog or periodical - and with this illustrations -

create an index, an introductory essay, and a bibliography - two new

projects to go live this year - a rare trade catalog illustrating Neo-Gothic furniture produced by the American furniture company Kimel & Cabus c 1870. 2nd - is Daniel D. Badger ILLUSTRATIONS OF IRON ARCHITECTURE, MADE BY THE ARCHITECTURAL IRON WORKS OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK - entire reproduction of book 1865 illustrating cast iron buildings in NYC - incorporating new photographs of existing buildings in SOHO. The library is contributing to several museum exhibitions notably: a show on sample books (2007; Piranesi

(2007) and Wallpaper for Children's Rooms (2008) and curating a show on their pop-up and moveable books."

**5. Digital Initiatives**

- a. Linda Duychak from UW-Madison spoke about her institution's decorative arts online resource, The Digital Library for the Decorative Arts and Material Culture <http://decorativearts.library.wisc.edu>. They have digitized the entire run of the Craftsman. The group further discussed ways our institutions could cooperate digitally.

**6. New DART chair**

- a. Rebecca Friedman and Heather Topcik have agreed to co-Chair DART for 2007-2008.