



ART LIBRARIES SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

37th Annual Conference
Indianapolis, Indiana, April 16-21, 2009

Session/Meeting Name: Communications & Publications Committee Meeting
Date, Time: April 18, 2009, 10:30am-12:00pm

Moderators: Roger Lawson

Present:

Kraig Binkowski, Professional Resources Editor
kraig.binkowski@yale.edu

Judy Dyki, *Art Documentation* Contents Editor
jdyki@cranbook.edu

Jonathan Franklin, incoming Chair, past member at-large, past AWS web editor
jfranklin@gallery.ca

Carol Graney, News & Features Editor
CGraney@uarts.edu

Roger Lawson, outgoing Chair, soon to be member at-large
R-LAWSON@NGA.GOV

Executive Board liaison:
Barbara Rominski (brominski@sfmoma.org) (2008-)

ARLIS/NA Association Manager, Technical Enterprises, Inc. (TEI), responsible for overseeing administration of ARLIS/NA publications program
Nancy Short
n.short@techenterprises.net

Lee Viverette, member at-large
lee.viverette@vmfa.museum

Absent:

Nedda Ahmed (ARLIS/NA Web Site Editor)
Jennifer Hehman (Bibliographic Notes Contributor)
Eileen Markson (Copy Editor, *Art Documentation*)
Martha Ruddy (At-large committee member)
Joan Stahl (former ARLIS *Reviews* Online Editor)

Meeting commenced at 10:35 am

Roger Lawson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Old Business

The minutes from the business meeting held in Denver in 2008 were reviewed. Barbara noted that she had noticed a typo and would send the correction by e-mail. Minutes were approved pending this correction.

Annual Report Summary

Art Documentation

Roger stated that **Judy Dyki and Eileen Markson** reported that two issues of *Art Documentation* had been published, Spring and Fall 2008, and that the two pdfs had been sent to EBSCO per the publishing agreement. The Spring 2009 issue is due out in mid May. He noted that Kathy Zimon had stepped down from her position as contents co-editor, a position she had held since 2001. The committee discussed and approved restructuring with Judy remaining as sole content editor and Eileen continuing to function as copy editor, while taking on additional responsibilities such as production and facilitation of the peer review process, which has been enthusiastically endorsed by the membership. A modified peer review process was in place for the Spring 2009 issue, a full peer review process will be in effect for the Fall 2009 issue.

Judy reported that we have 11 articles under consideration for the Fall issue and we had 24 people volunteer to be reviewers, and that she had already sent out articles to the reviewers. We now have two reviewers for each article instead of one. Judy indicated that we do not have formal guidelines available on the web currently.

ACTION ITEM #1: Develop formal peer reviewer guidelines/standards to put on the site.

Roger stated that EBSCO has now added *Art Documentation* to its list of scholarly journals as a direct result of the change to peer review. Abstracts were also added to the Spring issue.

One other positive change related to *Art Documentation* was that we have successfully switched the mailing from a Canadian location to a U.S. location which has resulted in a significant reduction in postage costs, saving about \$6,000. The design is still done in Canada.

One other change may be made to the cover of *Art Documentation* which has remained the same for 13 years. Decisions will be based on color, etc. We are considering holding a competition for a redesign of the cover amongst members and a prize awarded. Jonathan suggested that this could be a mechanism to engage membership.

Barbara cited the need to set parameters regarding the color of the cover.

ARLIS-L has an increased number of subscribers and we have added RSS feeds to the site.

Nedda and **Carol** established the RSS feeds for the Web site using Q Ltd documentation. Carol stated that it doubles the work that she must do because she has to put the content in another place, but she is willing to do it.

Nedda stated in her submission to the annual report that she created web pages for the Development, Cataloging Advisory and Public Policy committees, and for 2 sub-committee pages.

Carol reported that she needs information in a timely manner, such as the Distinguished Service award and travel awards information. The current disconnect in the information flow needs to be addressed.

ACTION ITEM #2: Ensure that a reliable process is in place so that Carol receives information concerning awards, etc. from committee chairs in time to post then on the website, especially prior to the annual conference.

Professional Resources

Kraig passed out a handout related to professional resources, which listed four online projects completed this year:

- *Cataloging Exhibition Publications: Best Practices: SUBJECT HEADINGS*
- *Artist Files Revealed: Documentation and Access*
- *Cataloging Exhibition Publications: Best Practices: NOTES*
- *Fine Arts and Visual Resources Librarianship: A Directory of Library Science Degree Programs in North America.*

Three projects are in process:

- *Directory of Artist Files Collections* (online publication)
- *Facilities Standards for Art Libraries and Visual Resource Collections* (revision, occasional paper)
- *Copyright for Art Libraries and Visual Resource Collections* (occasional paper).

Barbara added that beta testing of the artist files directory is going on now.

Kraig pointed out that the revised edition of *Facilities Standards for Art Libraries and Visual Resource Collections* (1991) was stalled due to the inability to get cooperation from the VRA. Martha is bogged down in transcribing, and Kraig will be assisting her in future. VRA has not been responsive, and they no longer have a publications committee. We might not be able to co publish, which might impact the arrangement of the material, may necessitate going back to the drawing board.

ACTION ITEM #3: Identify someone in ARLIS as a contact who is in VRA to facilitate collaboration with VRA in order to move this project along. Roger suggested John Taormina as a contact, as a possible collaborator. Kraig will contact John.

Web Casting

Kraig would like to explore doing web casts at next conference. This could be a new source of revenue. Not available in real time, but recorded and available after the conference for a fee.

Barbara relayed the fact that the board has charged itself with the task of exploring ways to make the conference content available for those who do not attend the conference, or for those who want to participate in virtual workshops, etc., after the conference. All would like to make the conference available post conference, in some format.

Jonathan added that this effort has been made previously such as in recording of the mentoring workshop on CD-Rom and delivering it to chapters, for their use. He agreed that similar applications could be adapted for use in e-commerce.

Nancy commented that TEI has experience in this area.

Kraig wondered if we should copyright the online publications and register each one at a cost of \$50.00. After brief discussion the committee decided that current copyright protections are sufficient, but decided that we might pursue this with future publications for which we will charge a fee.

Barbara said that as of mid May we will no longer be using Member Clicks, and the data is being exported into a proprietary database. We have purchased our domain name from another entity. Nancy stated that there will be one week of down time starting the week of May 12th. No more changes may be made as TEI is moving the site to their server.

[Tony White (Indiana University, Bloomington) joins meeting]

Reviews editor position update

Roger stated that recruitment has been ongoing to fill the position vacated by Joan Stahl, and that two candidates are being interviewed during the conference. We would like to have a group of reviews out every two months, six a year.

Tony White talked about the online journal system being used by Indiana University. The system was created as a public knowledge project, and is a free, open access software system that is very robust. Training is extensive but system might have applications for use with our publications. It supports double blind peer review. Might be an effective way to automate and organize the peer review process. Tony will send an e-mail to Jonathan and is happy to discuss the product and possible applications if we have questions.

[Break]

Roger and Barbara discussed the implications of the online publication of *Art Documentation* vs. the print version. We are waiting for ION to get back to us in regard to the cost of the template which will inform whether we purchase the templates or redesign. It may be less expensive for TEI to redesign. Judy noted that the membership will likely still demand a hard copy.

ACTION ITEM #4: Survey the membership to determine what percentage of members wants a print version of Art Doc.

The survey two years ago indicated that the majority of people wanted a printed copy. We would not want to up charge those that want print. Roger stated that he expects to hear from ION soon. The move to online would have other implications with advertisers, who may not want to advertise in an online publication. Also possibility of table of contents and abstracts online.

Barbara indicated that she is meeting for the week of April 27th with the TEI sales director who is willing to assist us in identifying sponsors and advertisers for an online format. She also expressed the board's appreciation to the University of Kentucky for hosting our ARLIS-L listserv for many years. She indicated that our list is now a reflector list and that HQ would like to move away from reflectors and have true lists. We plan to move to TEI for hosting for the sake of consistency and consolidation. The cost for hosting multiple listservs has yet to be determined, and we need the information so that we can make a decision about whether to continue to list under Lserve. She is gathering together a list of listservs to be serviced. TEI needs to know how many listservs are to be hosted. Barbara would like a comparison of the functionality between I-mail and Lserve to present to the board.

ACTION ITEM #5: Barbara will inform TEI about the number of listservs to be hosted by e-mail. Nancy will try and get information concerning quote and functionality in two weeks. Barbara would like to know about archiving with TEI.

Roger brought up the issues of our Art Documentation back files that need to be indexed. Nedda may have these files. Nedda's role should move away from the management of all the technical aspects of managing our web presence, and return to a content oriented role with the help of TEI.

Roger thanked the committee for being easy to work with and for their dedication.

Jonathan and the committee thanked Roger for his contributions and for his continuing contributions in his new role as member at-large. Roger expressed his confidence in Jonathan's ability to lead the committee as the new chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00.