



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

Session/Meeting Name: International Relations Committee

Date, Time: April 19, 2009, 8:00-9:30am

Moderators: Kristen Regina

Recorder: Elizabeth Darocha Berenz

Attendees:

Kristen Regina (chair)

Elizabeth Darocha Berenz (recorder)

Deborah Kempe

Michiel Nijhoff

Liv Valmestad

Hugh Wilburn

Barbara Rockenbach (visitor, on behalf of the Development committee)

Linda Seckelson (visitor, liaison for the Germany trip)

Welcome and Introductions

2008 Study Trip to the Netherlands final report (Hugh Wilburn)

The key element to success was having a local organizer (Michiel). The local organization made the trip possible. The IRC coordinated registration and local administration. ARLIS/NA gave some funds to the ARLIS/OKBN to defray costs and as a gesture of support for the program. (Kristen talked to Ted Goodman to begin discussing this funding becoming a permanent budget line in the ARLIS/NA budget). No deposit was needed at the hotel, but in the future we may need to do this at other hotels. It was unclear whether ARLIS/NA could accept deposit checks/ registration fees; most institutions wouldn't want to or be able to accept the checks on behalf of the committee. This may be an issue in the future. We need to check with the management company if they can handle this. In the future we may be able to charge extra to start a fund for bringing international speakers, guests, etc. The deposit was intended to make sure the applicants were serious about attending. A few people dropped out before we got to the point of collecting deposits. It's recommended that we have deposits in the future.

We decided on 20 attendees; we had 16 ARLIS/NA members and 4 spouses. A few people applied who weren't members of ARLIS/NA and it was decided it was necessary to be an NA member to be accepted. The attendees were a cohesive group and representative of North American librarianship. The number of attendees worked well. The attendees were asked to make a presentation after acceptance.

There were several opportunities for social interaction amongst group and Dutch hosts. A complaint was the lack of time to see institutions' artwork while visiting libraries; the program was very busy and did not allow for much free time.

Erasmus Amsterdam sponsored the boat trip (cost was approx 2000 dollars - or Euros?)

2009 Study Trip to Germany progress report (Linda Seckelson)

The group will visit Berlin and Munich: October 18-23, 2009, and will be scheduled immediately after the Frankfurt Book Fair (October 14-18). The trip will include 12 attendees. The participants should arrive in Berlin by Sunday October 18th; the program will begin on the morning of October 19th.

The person leading the trip works for a continuing education organization which may help support some transportation and meals (approx. 1000 Euros).

Linda has a preliminary schedule of venues, accommodations, etc. She went over the draft itinerary with the committee.

The Berlin hotel will cost approximately 70 Euros/night including breakfast (for 4 nights); airfares are currently reasonable between Berlin and Munich. The Munich accommodations will cost approximately 40 Euros/night (for 2 nights). A Weimar visit may be dropped from the schedule so the attendees can spend more time in Munich.

The attendees will be required to submit a \$300 Deposit. Kristen will talk to the management company about handling the deposited funds. The deposit on the Dutch study trips complicated matters because the funds were intended to go toward hotel expenses. The committee discussed whether to have an application process rather than first-come, first-serve process, and it was decided that the process should be first-come, first-serve. It is preferred that the attendees are actively working librarians.

Every attendee will be asked contribute a 5-10 minute overview of their institutions and librarianship to be presented by Linda at a conference in Nuremberg the following week. The American Embassy in Berlin could be contacted as a potential sponsor or for a reception location.

Development and the IRC (Barbara Rockenbach)

The Development committee's purpose is raising money for the conference rather than funding study trips, etc. A grant application was made to the Kress foundation for funding for NA members presenting at ARLIS/Norden, UK, and other European conferences. A commitment of \$5000 was made by Kress to support this kind of opportunity (a \$1000 grant to be made each year over the next five years). The IRC will administer this funding within ARLIS/NA.

How can we coordinate with the Development committee about approaching sponsors, vendors, etc.? The committee should check with the development committee in advance to make sure these sponsors aren't already being contacted.

There are currently two ARLIS/NA international travel awards. This year one of the awards intended for European librarians (Puvill Libros) did not receive any applications. The IRC can help make contacts and encourage applicants. We can contact the heads of each chapter in Europe to announce the awards. Michiel will announce the award on other ARLIS listservs. Liv can contact ARLIS/Norden.

IRC charge review

This was discussed briefly and determined to still be relevant. We also need to add a Mexican representative to the committee.

IRC brochure

Elizabeth will continue to work on the brochure. Some ideas for inclusion: photos from past study trips, travel awards for international attendees (add logo for award sponsors). Ask NA for funding (for printing). The special projects funding will be announced this summer. Have a brochure ready for ARLIS/UK this summer.

Draft of IRC Study Program guidelines

This will be essential for future planning of study trips. Some 2010 trip ideas were discussed, including Italy, South America, Mexico, and France. The IRC discussed the importance of choosing locations with an existing infrastructure (art library organizations, etc.), libraries of interest, locations which have not been recently used by other organizations such as IFLA, and ease of transportation between locations. It was agreed that we need to invest time, energy, and money in a program where the outcome for further relationships after the trip is strong.

It was initially decided that the IRC would have a study trip to Paris for 2010, but after discussing the plan to create a session for the ARLIS/NA conference in 2010 in collaboration with members of ARLIS/UK, we decided to make the 2010 trip to the UK, hopefully in conjunction with the ARLIS/UK meeting. Elizabeth is attending ARLIS/UK in 2009 presenting a workshop, and she will begin planning the proposal for 2010 and lay the groundwork for a possible 2010 trip.

We will make a list of potential countries for the next five years to begin long-range planning.

It was agreed we will move the IRC webpage to the ARLIS/NA site.

Hugh Wilburn will rotate off the committee. A replacement for Hugh will be sought.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30