



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

Session/Meeting Name: Membership Meeting

Date, Time: April 20, 2009, 8:15-10:00am

Moderators: Ken Soehner

Recorder: V. Heidi Hass

Call to Order

Ken Soehner, President, called the meeting to order at 8:15 am.

Ken began by thanking Eileen Fry and Tony White, program co-chairs; Alba Fernandez-Keys and Sonja Staum, local arrangements co-chairs, and Sue Rawlyk, for organizing a successful conference. Ken described the search for and selection of our new association management firm, Technical Enterprises Inc. (TEI). Ken discussed our first full year with board members as functional liaisons rather than geographical representatives, and thanked Ted Goodman for stepping into the role of Treasurer in July

TEI, Inc. Presentation

Ken then introduced Nancy Short, our new Association and Conference Manager. Nancy thanked members for allowing her to sit in on meetings and sessions, allowing her to learn about the Society. TEI is a 25 year-old business based in the Milwaukee suburb of Oak Creek, Wisconsin that manages 15 clients. After May 1 members will be calling ARLIS/NA at TEI, and will receive a call back within 24 hours. Nancy will be working with the board and committees to ensure a smooth transition, and in several new areas of activity. Members can expect new contact information to appear on AWS within the first few weeks of May.

Treasurer's Report

Ted Goodman gave the Treasurer's Report, and received a round of applause after stating that our three Vanguard accounts only lost 8.2% in 2008. Ted thanked the Finance committee for their expert advice. Other highlights of the annual budget: we've had an increase in membership; revenue from gifts and advertisements is down, but the Denver conference made \$52,000, we saved money by eliminating the print version of the handbook, and over all our profit in 2008 was \$38,000. Grants and awards have increased, and this year our administrative expenses will be higher due to the management firm transition. 2009 will be tough, but Ted believes that we'll emerge stronger than ever.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary's Report was presented by Rebecca Price, who noted that as a society we aim for transparency and to that end all minutes are posted on AWS. She thanked the society and the board for the opportunity to serve, and encouraged all members to volunteer.

Publications Committee Report

Roger Lawson, outgoing chair of the Publications Committee, offered thanks to Kathy Zimon as co-content editor of Art Documentation from 2001-2008, and to Joan Stahl as reviews editor 1992-2009, who was instrumental in the transition to online, timely reviews. Roger also thanked our design and production firm, ion.

SEI Report

Vice-President/President-elect Amy Lucker delivered Alix Reiskind's report on the Summer Educational Institute (SEI). 2008's institute was held at James Madison University; this year's institute will be held June 8-13 at Simmons College and has a waiting list of seven. An advanced version of SEI will be held next year.

Indianapolis Conference

Alba Fernandez-Keys, Eileen Fry, and Tony White reported that the Mid-States chapter hosted 375 registered attendees, 44 students/retirees and 56 first time attendees at this year's conference. They thanked the original co-chairs of the conference, B.J. Irvine and Ursula Kolmstetter, and all of their colleagues who assisted in making the conference a success

Boston 2010 Conference

Rachel Resnik, Jennifer Friedman, and Deborah Barlow Smedstad of the New England chapter gave an entertaining preview of next year's Boston conference, which will be held at the Seaport Hotel in the Waterfront district. The conference title will be Revolution and Innovation. The organizers request that all members fill out the conference evaluation form, online if possible, to assist them in their planning. The call for proposals will go out in early June.

In Memoriam Judith A. Hoffberg

B.J. Irvine, Richard Minsky, and Laurence McGilvery gave a tribute to Judy Hoffberg. B.J. read a letter from Bill Walker remembering Judy and the creation of ARLIS/NA going back to 1969. Richard discussed a letter on ARLIS/NA letterhead that he received from Judy in Feb. 1975 which was found in the Center for Book Arts archive at Yale. Larry described Judy's memorial service which was held Feb. 8 at Track 13 Gallery, Santa Monica, with over 250 attendees and 14 speakers including her nephew, Amy Ciccone, and Joan Benedetti. Amy interviewed Judy for the ARLIS/NA oral histories project in 1990; an abridged version was published in Art Documentation (v. 27 no.1 2008). It was noted that the recognition that Judy received at the 2006 Banff conference, and the Judith A. Hoffberg student award for conference attendance were very meaningful to her.

Development Committee Report

Barbara Rockenbach, chair of the Development committee began by thanking our conference sponsors. She announced the Kress Foundation scholarship for any member presenting a paper at a European venue, and stated that the committee is working on sponsorship opportunities with the International Relations Committee.

Netherlands Study Tour Report

Hugh Wilburn reported on the International Relations Committee-sponsored study trip to the Netherlands. He thanked Kristen Regina, chair of the IRC, and particularly Mikiel Nijhoff who facilitated the study tour. Hugh also recalled Judy Hoffberg's emphasis on international cooperation.

2009 Study Tour: Germany

Linda Seckelson gave an overview of a study tour of German libraries, to occur Oct. 19-23, 2009. Applications will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis; an announcement will be made on ARLIS-L shortly.

Outgoing and Incoming Executive Board members

Ken thanked outgoing board members: Deborah Ultan Boudewyns, Cate Cooney, Rebecca Price, Elizabeth Schaub, Amy Trendler. He welcomed incoming board members: Kim Collins, V. Heidi Hass, D. Vanessa Kam, Marilyn Russell and Tony White. Ken applauded the

contribution of Amy Lucker in the search for the new management firm, and stated that the coming year will be one of positive transition for ARLIS/NA.

Member's Forum

Amy Lucker introduced the forum as an opportunity for a conversation among members. Janine Henri and Margaret Webster announced the closing of the visual resources collections at University of California, Irvine and Cornell University. They asked the board to work with the VRA board on a white paper or position paper to address the need to transition VR collections appropriately and to recognize their value. These closures seem to be part of a worrisome trend and members need the support of their professional organizations. Eileen Fry continued this theme, and urged art librarians who have visual resources counterparts to reach out to their colleagues, to make connections and to help keep vr collections intact. Maryly Snow, in researching the history of her own library, found that originally vr collections were within the library, but were split out in the process of specialization that occurred after the war. Perhaps it is time for vr collections to come back to the art/architecture library.

Daniel Starr mentioned Elizabeth Clarke's assistance in coordinating our first joint conference with VRA, St. Louis, 2002, and urged the board to come to a formal agreement with VRA on the 2011 joint conference in Minneapolis as soon as possible. Amy responded that we have worked closely with VRA on SEI, and that it is a good time to continue to strengthen our ties.

Eileen Fry spoke about future conference planning, in light of our compact schedule and need for content. She asked if we needed 22-23 sessions, wondered if a shorter conference would be more feasible, stated that the no-conflict time was important to our vendors, but noted its negative impact on planning committee meetings. Eileen asked if we could conduct committee business another way, and if more section meetings could be used for programming content.

B.J. Irvine solicited remembrances of Judy Hoffberg from the membership. Larry McGilvery said that David Hoffberg is creating a book for which members may contribute a page, and that it will go to UCSB, which has also acquired the Umbrella archive. Sherman Clarke remembered meeting Judy in 1974, after joining ARLIS in 1973; he had trouble putting into words her contribution to ARLIS and his own career as an art librarian.

B.J. expressed her pride in the Indianapolis conference team.

Amy Lucker asked members to keep in touch with the Executive Board, and adjourned the meeting at 10:00 am.