

ARLIS/NA Standards Committee Meeting Minutes
New York, NY
Friday, April 16, 2004

Present: Sarah McCleskey (Co-Chair), Mark Bresnan, Jon Evans, Phil Heagy, Laura Schwartz (Board Liaison), Rijn Templeton

Absent: Rachel Kuhn, Ann Baird Whiteside (Co-Chair)

Guest: Margaret May, School Library Media Specialist

I. Welcome and Introductions. The committee membership will remain the same for the coming year, with the addition of Ann Baird Whiteside as incoming Co-Chair. Mark Bresnan has agreed to serve as the ARLIS/NA Niso Liaison for the coming year and will report NISO activities to the committee as appropriate.

II. Approval of Annual Report for 2003-2004. The annual report was discussed and approved. The full text of the report is available on the Standards website (<http://www.arlisna.org/organization/com/standards/index.htm>).

III. There was a discussion of a need to update the document Facilities Standards for Art Libraries and Visual Resources Collections. After examining the current document, the committee decided that 2 or 3 people should be identified to spearhead the project. Carole Ann Fabian's name was mentioned as someone who would be appropriate for a chapter related to technology. Ann Whiteside's name was mentioned as someone who might be interested in examining user patterns. Sarah McCleskey will contact Jack Robertson, Chair of the Publications Committee for assistance in identifying potential editor(s) and contributors. After making the initial contacts, Sarah McCleskey will make a proposal to the Publications Committee if this project is deemed feasible.

IV. Jon Evans and Rijn Templeton have made efforts to have more ARLIS/NA publications indexed by Wilson. They submitted copies of a letter sent to Wilson in reference to lack of coverage of Art Documentation in Art Index (and its related databases); they also requested that Wilson consider cover Art Documentation and the ARLIS/NA Occasional Papers in Library Literature (the coverage in Library Literature was sporadic for these publications).

V. Sarah McCleskey distributed a proposal for updating the ARIS/NA Occasional Paper Staffing Standards for Art Libraries and Visual Resources Collections. This was submitted by invitation to the editor of the Occasional Papers. There was discussion regarding the difference between staffing standards (what staff the library needs) and core competencies (what staff need to know). There was also discussion regarding a new role of the art librarian, typically a specialist, working in a main or fine arts setting and therefore serving more as a generalist.

VI. There was discussion of contacting other groups within ARLIS/NA to gather information regarding standards-related topics they may be working on. Assignments are as follows: Sarah McCleskey – Divisions; Mark Bresnan – Sections; Roundtables – Rachel Kuhn and Jon Evans; Committees – Ann Whiteside; Discussion Groups – Rijn Templeton. Members of our committee will try to ascertain if other groups are doing any related activities, and if not, encourage them to consider it. Sarah McCleskey and Laura Schwartz will work on appropriate language for our members to use when contacting other groups.

VII. The group decided to set a “research agenda” to identify new standards that could/should be developed, or older standards that should be updated. After discussion, we agreed that 3 topics are in the greatest need of attention: staffing standards, facilities standards, and a core list of art related periodicals (similar to the core list of architecture periodicals developed by the Association of Architecture School Librarians). Sarah McCleskey will continue with the work on staffing standards. She will also make the initial contact with the Publications Committee to begin the process of updating the facilities standards document. Sarah McCleskey and Ann Whiteside will contact the Serials Roundtable to open discussion on a core periodicals list; this would probably need to be spread over different subject areas, for example, photography, museum libraries, design, Western art, Asian art, African art, etc. A website might be the most appropriate place for this list to appear, so that it could be updated regularly.