During the past year I have tried to represent ARLIS/NA at SLA functions. I have also sent notes to the leadership of the local ARLIS/NA chapter regarding SLA events in the area.

As past-chair of the SLA Museums, Arts, and Humanities Division I have been able to add information about ARLIS/NA in meetings and correspondence. In addition, a number of graduate library students and undergraduate students volunteer in my library. I often discuss with them the opportunities provided by professional organizations. Several have had art-related backgrounds and I specifically encourage them to explore membership in ARLIS/NA as well as SLA, depending upon their career interests.

This past year I tried to arrange at least one joint meeting of ARLIS/NA Southern California Chapter with the SLA Southern California Chapter and other library-related organizations. The SLA chapter has been excited about the possibility but it has not been possible to get an event coordinated with the local ARLIS/NA chapter, but not for a lack of trying. I will continue to do so in the near future.

I have offered the use of my library and have been willing to arrange a joint event at my place of work, the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. There is currently a significant exhibition of watercolor paintings specially commissioned as part of the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Los Angeles Aqueduct as well as that of the museum. This would provide an excellent venue for ARLIS/NA and SLA members to have a joint event.

For the first time in its history SLA has an elected president from outside North America. She is Kate Arnold from the United Kingdom and adds to the international interests of SLA along with its active chapters throughout the world. This year’s annual conference is in Vancouver, British Columbia.

SLA has been working on adjustments to operations and meetings due to a decline in membership and other factors also affecting ALA and other library associations. In an attempt to boost membership and vendor partner participation at the annual conference, SLA is experimenting with a variety of changes to the conference schedule and will continue to do so over the next few years.