Annual Report 2014
Gerd Muehsam Award Subcommittee

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Membership
This year, the Gerd Muehsam Award Committee consisted of Anna Simon, Marsha Taichman, Sarah Osborne Bender, Anne Simmons, Elizabeth Ehrnst and myself. At present, no new Chair has been selected for the committee for 2015-2016. On February 10, 2015, the committee members were asked to see if there were any volunteers to chair the GMAC for 2015-2016. No one has stepped forward, to this point. Three members, Bender, Ehrnst and myself will be rotating off the GMA Committee for 2015-2016.

Activities
This year, I reorganized the GMA Chair files and updated the contact list for library school faculty contacts. Affiliated organizations, such as CAA, SAA, Association of Art Museum Curators, SAH and VRA were sent notices of the GMA in Summer 2014 for posting on organization newsletters.

Adjustments
Two adjustments were made to the GMA schedule during the year. First, Awards Chair Viveca Robichaud emailed on October 13, 2014, to see if the winner could be notified earlier than the original February 12th, 2015 date, in order for them to make arrangements to attend the conference. I moved the notification date up one week to February 5. Second, just before the December 5, 2014, deadline this year we had a small number of entries, five or so, and we, therefore, extended the deadline another two weeks. In the end, our committee received 13 entries from students across North America. The committee selected the paper, “Belonging: a brief study on artists’ books and institutional classification,” by Eva Athanasiu of the University of Toronto. While the number of entries was down compared to recent years, the committee was impressed with the uniform high quality of the entries.

Issues for the Executive Board
To encourage greater participation, we would urge that the cash award be enhanced to $1,000, along with the other perks, including free registration and an opportunity to speak at the New Voices panel at the Fort Worth conference. This idea was sent to both the ARLIS/NA President and Treasurer without receiving a response.