Submitted by:  Karyn Hinkle, karyn.hinkle@northwestern.edu, (847) 467-0449  
February 2015

LEADERSHIP

Chair: Karyn Hinkle  
Co-chair: Hillary Veeder

Members: Laurel Bliss, Sally Brazil, Stephanie Frontz, Suzanne Rackover, Sara Stigberg, Rina Vecchiola

ACTIVITIES

Award Web Sites and Forms:
- Worldwide Books Award for Publications: Guidelines and Application Form
- Worldwide Books Award for Electronic Resources: Guidelines and Application Form
- H.W. Wilson Foundation Research Award: Guidelines and Application Form

Procedures:
As in years past, the sub-committee continued to use a Google Drive folder to share documents with the group and to conduct business internally. Award announcements were posted to the ARLIS-L listserv and advertised through the ARLIS Facebook page, ArISNAP, ARLIS ALD, ARLIS Architecture division, all ARLIS regional chapters, and with VRA, SAH, ARLIS UK and Ireland, ARLIS/NL, ARLIS/ANZ. The initial announcement was sent on October 31, 2014 and a reminder on December 5, 2014. We continued to employ the new-last-year procedure of collecting applications online via Google Forms (see links above). The sub-committee continued the practice begun last year of reviewing the most recent issues of Art Documentation for potential nominations for the Worldwide Books Award for Publications, and added the practice of reviewing the ARLIS-L listserv for announcements of potential nominations for the Worldwide Books Award of Electronic Resources.

Applications:
The chart below lists the number of applications for each of the research awards this year as well as for the previous four awards cycles. The sub-committee was disappointed to have received an unusually low number of applications for the awards this year, particularly for the Worldwide Books Award for Electronic Resources and the H. W. Wilson Research Award. We hypothesized that the early conference timeline may have impacted applications numbers, since we had to set deadlines around the holidays when many members were perhaps very busy and/or not used to thinking about applying for the ARLIS awards.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Worldwide Publications</th>
<th>Worldwide Electronic</th>
<th>H. W. Wilson Research</th>
<th>TOTALS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014-2015</td>
<td>4 (plus 1 sub-committee nomination)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-2014</td>
<td>4 (plus 2 sub-committee nominations)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Award Winners:**

After reviewing the submissions and submitting notes via our shared Google Drive folder, the sub-committee met via conference call on January 29, 2015 to decide on the award winners. The results were as follows:

**H.W. Wilson Foundation Research Award** (up to $3,000)
- Craig Bunch, for his project "Interviews with Texas Artists," is the winner of the H. W. Wilson Foundation Research Award for $3,000.00.

**Worldwide Books Award for Publications** (up to $2,000 for both Worldwide awards)
- Vanessa Kam, for her project "The Tenacious Book, Parts I and II," is the winner of the Worldwide Books Award for Publications for $1,500.00.
- Sally Stokes has received an honorable mention for the Worldwide Books Award for Publications for her project "'The Studio World Surprised and Disturbed Ruth’" ($500).

**Worldwide Books Award for Electronic Resources** (up to $2,000 for both Worldwide awards)
- The sub-committee did not receive any applications in this category this year and did not recommend any projects for nomination by the sub-committee.

**ARLIS/NA STRATEGIC PLAN 2011-2015**

The Research Awards recognize and reward the contributions that ARLIS members make to the field of art information research. The Worldwide award acknowledges and encourages scholarly publication by the ARLIS/NA membership and the Wilson award provides financial support for members' proposed, future research projects. In doing so, the Research Awards support the ARLIS/NA Strategic Plan 2011-2015 on several fronts:

- Leverage and promote the art information professionals' skills beyond the library context and Provide opportunities for members to participate in shaping the role of the profession in the changing environment of art information and scholarship (Goal One)

- Extend and encourage professional development, continuing education, networking and mentoring opportunities, for both mid-career and senior career professionals (Goal Two)

**TO BRING BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**
Recommendations:

- Members of the sub-committee again discussed an idea first brought up last year: the distinction between Publications and Electronic Resources for the two Worldwide Books Awards is somewhat artificial. Some years there are not many (or, as in this case, any) applications for Electronic Resources, while in other years, the highest quality submissions of any publications are electronic publications. The sub-committee again wondered if the donor might wish to consider collapsing the two awards into a single award that can offer up to $2,000. This way, future research award sub-committees could review both types of publications holistically and consider their relative merits within a single pool. We would recommend that the Chair of the Awards Committee and/or the Executive Board discuss this proposal with Worldwide Books.

- We had a funny situation this year in that the single applicant for the H. W. Wilson Research Award was an individual who had already won the award two other times in the previous five years. The project is a highly relevant, worthy project that the sub-committee is thrilled to fund, and may well have voted to award even if there were other strong applicants for the award, but it did feel a bit strange to give the same person the award for the third time in five years. We recommend that the Executive Board review the Wilson award guidelines, and perhaps revise to limit the number of times (perhaps at three) someone could apply in a certain time period.

- Kristen Regina and the Executive Board have discussed a few changes for this sub-committee structure and its appointment procedure with the current co-chairs Karyn Hinkle and Hillary Veeder, and we fully support the two suggested tweaks put forward – using the term Vice-Chair and Chair instead of Co-Chair and Chair, and having the Vice President of the Executive Board and the Chair of the Awards Committee be involved in the appointment of future sub-committee members and its chairs. We look forward to future discussions and directives for the 2015-16 awards year.