Annual Report 2015
Northern California Chapter

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Leadership Update:

Chapter Officers for 2016
Chair Abby Bridge, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect Christina Moretta, San Francisco Public Library
Secretary/Treasurer Teri Dowling, California College of the Arts
Past Chair Dayna Holz, City College of San Francisco

Chapter Officers for 2015
Chair Dayna Holz, City College of San Francisco
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect Abby Bridge, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
Secretary/Treasurer Mary Wegmann, Notre Dame de Namur University

Meetings:

Spring Meeting
April 24, 2015
Maritime Research Center of the San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park

In addition to the business meeting, Chapter members discussed the Chapter Mentoring Program, the state of the field for art library professionals in Northern California, CCA’s Wikipedia edit-a-thon, and cataloging of born-digital and open access items added to library collections.

Maritime Research Center Tour:
Jim Shuttleworth gave an overview of ship portraits and tips for collectors. The library staff gave a tour and history of the library and highlighted several items from their special collections.

Tour of Mexican Museum:
Marlena Cannon, Assistant to the Director, gave a tour of the current exhibitions and collections storage.

Introduction to the Long Now Foundation:
Overview and tour of the Long Now Foundation with Andrew Warner, Technical Production and Public Communications Lead, followed by a happy hour cocktail at The Interval.
Fall Meeting  
November 12, 2015  
Book Club of California

Much of the discussion at the business meeting focused on the financial challenges facing the Chapter. In an effort to overcome monthly minimum balance charges for the Chapter bank account, we have asked members to donate to an “endowment” to create a stable $1,000 fund to avoid fees. So far, we have raised $218. With reduced membership and the annual $128 fees for listserv hosting that we have started paying in the last few years, we have had to reduce the travel award to support the Chair’s attendance to the annual conference, as well as our Chapter donation to the annual conference. The membership voted to still contribute to the annual conference fund, but to donate every other year instead of annually. Additional fundraising options were discussed, but we have so far not identified ways to raise money outside of our membership.

Members also discussed the second round of the Chapter Mentoring Program; voted to create an informal Chapter Events Committee to help the officers plan the afternoon portion of the Chapter meetings, additional events, and manage the Chapter’s social media accounts; and had a lively round of updates from the 21 attendees.

Following the business meeting, Henry Snyder gave an introduction and overview of the Book Club of California’s collections, and ARTstor Account Manager, Jessica Wall, gave an overview of ARTstor. After lunch Chapter members took a tour of the Paul Graham exhibition at Pier 24 Photography.

Chapter Activities:

Codex Book Fair:  
Members attended the bi-annual Codex Book Fair, held in Richmond in February.

ALA Reception:  
The Northern California Chapter hosted a reception for ARLIS/NA attendees at the ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco on June 25. Several Chapter members joined librarians from across the country at William Stout Architectural Books for an evening of mingling, wine, and snacks. It was a great opportunity to catch up with colleagues and browse the remarkable architectural resources at this unique bookstore.

Tour of the Kael-Basart House and Jess Murals:  
In July, the Chapter toured the Kael-Basart House in Berkeley, home to the only extant murals by the artist Jess. Painted in 1956 for Jess' friend, film critic Pauline Kael, the murals are still remarkably vibrant and inspiring. We were welcomed by our generous hosts from the Committee to Preserve the Jess Murals & Kael-Basart House - with wine, food, and live musical accompaniment. The evening included an introduction to the history of the murals, the house, and its inhabitants over the years, and was followed by a screening of a short documentary about the house, concluding with a tour of the murals.

di Rosa Preserve:  
Members attended a tour of the outdoor sculpture collection at the di Rosa Preserve in the Napa Valley. It was a beautiful day and an interesting collection. The trip inspired a follow up visit to Napa to see the Friedensreich Hundertwasser designed buildings at the Quixote Winery in January 2016.
Membership Statistics:

Total ARLIS/NA-NC members in 2015: 24

Treasurer’s Report:

Balance as of November 2015: $1,073.72

The Ann Gilbert Travel Award for attendance to the 2014 ARLIS/NA conference was awarded to Dayna Holz, 2015 Chair.

Strategic Plans/Goals:

Beginning in 2015, the Chapter elected to participate in the Chapter Mentoring Program sponsored by ARLIS/NA. Our initial 6-month cycle included 3 matched pairs of mentors/mentees. However, none of the three mentees were Chapter members or particularly interested in art librarianship. For the second cycle, we encouraged mentee applicants to join the Chapter and express more specifically why they were interested in art librarianship. The Chapter Mentoring Liaison, Mary Wegmann, was able to match two pairs for the second cycle, which started in October 2015. Mary will continue to act as Liaison for the Program for as long as there is interest in continuing.

- This initiative aligns with Goal II’s objectives to: “Introduce additional mentoring opportunities that increase the possibilities for informal and less structured support and learning experiences for new professionals;” and “Enhance the visibility of all ARLIS/NA and chapter mentoring efforts.”
- Action Items:
  - Initiate the Chapter Mentoring Program (complete)
  - Match mentors and mentees for initial 6-month mentoring cycle (complete)
  - Match mentors and mentees for second 6-month mentoring cycle (complete)
  - Solicit participants for future mentoring opportunities (pending)

The Chapter has been exploring fundraising options to create an “endowment” of $1,000 to maintain the minimum monthly balance for the Chapter bank account and avoid fees. So far, we have raised $218 from member donations. We would like to host one or two paid events in 2016 to collect more funds towards this effort. Our hope is to bring some financial stability to the Chapter so that we may concentrate going forward on activities solely related to the encouragement and benefit of art librarianship.

- This initiative aligns generally with Goal V’s objective to strengthen operational infrastructure.
- Action Items:
  - Determine the need for an endowment of $1,000 and solicit funds from Chapter Members (complete)
  - Host paid events to raise funds towards reaching the $1,000 goal (pending)

While our Chapter membership has been shrinking over the past few years, we have managed to increase our outreach efforts through informal, art-related activities after (work) hours and on weekends. (See Chapter Activities section above) Chapter officers planned several get-togethers in 2014 and 2015, and more are planned for 2016. To distribute some of the event planning responsibilities among more of the members, the Chapter elected to establish an informal Events Committee. Members can participate in the
Committee on a volunteer, as needed basis to organize outings, tours, gatherings, and general art-centric activities outside of our regular meeting times.

- This initiative aligns with Goal III’s objectives to: “Expand the Society's programs to attract those new to the art information profession and those from a diverse range of institutions;” and “Foster partnerships and affiliations with other professional organizations by identifying opportunities for dialogue and collaboration.”
- Action Items:
  - Plan and organize regular events for Chapter members and their friends to participate in around Northern California (ongoing)
  - Establish an Events Committee to help plan activities (completed)