Leadership Update:
• This is the second year of my three-year term as Awards Committee Chair, which started in 2014.

Narrative:
• The 2015 Convocation Ceremony took place last March, in Fort Worth, Texas, during the 43rd Annual Conference at the Omni, Fort Worth.
• This was the second year that a group of European Librarians were presented with Kress Fellowships to attend a North American conference. This is part of a multi-year grant from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation and will continue this year with European Librarians receiving funding from this grant to attend the ARLIS/NA Annual Conference in Fort Worth. Additionally there will be fellowships awarded through ARLIS for European Librarians to receive funding to attend the International Federation of Library Associations’ World Congress in Columbus, Ohio or the IFLA Art Libraries Section Satellite Meeting at the Art Institute of Chicago, both in August, 2016.
• Many of the sub-committees have chairs that will be returning for a second year, however they will still be in need of new committee members, which will help them to fill.
• All of the sub-committee chairs will be informed of the short nature of this upcoming awards cycle and will need to adjust the deadlines for submission accordingly. This will be an agenda item at the Awards Committee meeting in Seattle during the upcoming conference in March.

Sub-Committees:
• Distinguished Service Award, chair, Susan Craig
  o The 2014 Distinguished Service Award was presented to Daniel A. Starr in Fort Worth, TX, at the annual conference. The current members of the committee are Laurel Bliss, chair, Kim Collins, and Rebecca Price. The recipient of the 2015 Distinguished Service Award will be presented at the joint ARLIS/NA-VRA Convocation in Seattle.
• Melva J. Dwyer Award, chair, Sylvia Roberts
  o Committee Members: Larissa Beringer, Cyndie Campbell, Eva Revitt
  o Ron Wilson’s Landscape Architecture in Canada (Montreal: McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2014) was the winner of the Melva J. Dwyer Award.
  o Honorable mention was given to Daina Augaitis, James Hart, et al.’s Charles Edenshaw (London: Black Dog Publishing, 2013) which was published in conjunction with a Vancouver Art Gallery exhibition.
At the writing of this report, a winner has not yet been chosen for 2015, however, one will be selected in the coming weeks and will be presented at the conference in March.

**Wolfgang M. Freitag Internship Award, chair, Philip Dombowsky**
- Committee Members: Bailey Diers, Jennifer Garland, Gina Solares, Traci Timmons
- The 2014 award was presented to Adam Beebe, MLIS Candidate, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, by former chair, Amy Ballmer.
- Philip Dombowsky will remain chair of this sub-committee for 2016.
- This will be the second year that the award is given for the amount of $3,000.

**Gerd Muehsam Award, chair, John Hagood**
- Committee Members: Anna H. Simmons, Nancy Spiegel, Marsha Taichman, Holly Wilson
- Eva Athanasiu, student, University of Toronto, was presented the award for her paper “Belonging: A Brief Study on Artists’ Books and Institutional Classification.”
- The 2015 winner will be awarded at this year's convocation ceremony.

**Research Awards, chair, Hillary Veeder, vice-chair, Laurel Bliss**
- Committee Members: Sally Brazil, Breanne Crumpton, Stephanie Frontz, Lindsey Reynolds, Sara Stigberg, Rina Vecchiola
- A new structure has been put into place for the Research Awards, with the establishment of a chair and vice-chair to serve each year, with the vice-chair becoming chair on their second year of service.
- Worldwide Book Award for Publications
  - The 2014 winner was Vanessa Kam for “The Tenacious Book, Parts I and II”
  - Honorable Mention was presented to Sally Sims Stokes for “The Studio World Surprised and Disturbed Ruth.”
- Worldwide Books Award for Electronic Resources
  - A 2014 winner was not selected. Work is being done to best figure out how to deal with this award category, which is often without sufficient applications for the award.
- H.W. Wilson Foundation Research Award
  - Craig Bunch, Assistant Librarian, McNay Art Museum Library, was presented with this award for his project, “Interviews with Texas Artists.”

**Travel Awards, chair, Tamara Fultz**
- Committee Members: Carla-Mae Crookendale, Eumie Imm Stroukoff, Gwen Mayhew, Kathryn Riel, Mary Kandiuk
- The 2015 award winners have been notified and will be presented in Seattle in March.
- This will be Tamara Fultz final year as chair of the committee, and will be succeeded by Kathryn Riel.

**Wittenborn Award, chair, Karyn Hinkle**
- Committee Members: Elizabeth Berenz, Karl Blumenthan, Alexis Burson, Autumn Mather
- A winner has been selected and will be presented at the March convocation ceremony.
- Next year’s Wittenborn committee will be chaired by Traci Timmons and will consist of Alan Michelson, Angela Weaver, Bridget Nowlin, and Margaret Fast.

**ARLIS/NA Strategic Plan:**
- **Goal I: Articulate New Directions and Identity for the Profession**
Through effective promotion of the awards given on an annual basis, we can promote both the field of art librarianship, our professional organization, ARLIS/NA, and the many facets of our roles.

- The Travel Awards and the Internship Award actively promotes the profession to a new and emerging group of art librarians.
- Giving awards to publications also demonstrates the many different skills that make up the profession of an art librarian and promotes the profession to a wider audience outside of the ARLIS/NA organization.

**Goal II: Expand Mentoring, Management, and Transition Skills**

- The convocation ceremony provides the space to bring together more established librarians with new and emerging librarians through the interaction of awards winners and sub-committee members. It is my hope to help foster this interaction between sub-committee members and awards winners.

**Goal III: Create Stronger Leadership through Promotion, Cooperation and Advocacy**

- The Awards Committee is dedicated to this strategic goal through the promotion of the profession through the presentation of these awards. The Travel Awards especially encourages students and early-career librarians to get involved with the society through the awarding of funds that enable these librarians to attend a conference that they would not necessarily be able to attend because of financial restrictions.

**Goal V: Strengthen the Society’s Communication and Operational Infrastructure**

- It is my goal during my three-year term to create a guide for the role of Awards Chair so that when my term is complete there will be a guide to the position for the incoming Awards Chair and allow for a smooth leadership transition. Since this is my second year as Awards Chair, a new chair will be determined and appointed and can work with me through the 2016 awards cycle to be able to take the reigns when it is time.