Annual Report 2015
Educational Technology Subcommittee
Professional Development Committee

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Leadership Update: At the 2016 ARLIS/NA Annual Conference, PDC-Educational Technology will be absorbed into the main PDC Committee, with newly designated roles and duties assigned. In January, the creation of a leadership role to serve on PDC as the ‘Learning Portal Coordinator’ was created and Mike Wirtz will begin service in this role at the 2016 Annual Conference. Mike has served on PDC-Educational Technology since 2014 and will make an excellent leader. Other previous PDC-ET members, Caroline Dechert and Danielle Reay, will continue on in service within 2 spaces on PDC, and will assist Mike with the Learning Portal.

The past year has been extremely fruitful for PDC-Ed Tech, and in turn for the ARLIS/NA Learning Portal. Since the 2015 ARLIS/NA Conference, we have added 4 conference sessions from the 2015 Conference; IRC Budapest Proceedings; Mountain West Chapter Virtual Conference; ACRL Frameworks Webinar; Northeast Chapter Virtual Conference; PDC-Education Webinar on Using the Learning Portal; Lunchtime Chat for 2016 Annual Conference; and ARLIS/NA Leadership Webinar.

In terms of structure, workflows, and internal support, PDC-Ed Tech created several documents to provide the necessary framework for outreach, content creation, and content input. We revised and created a new “Speaker Consent Form” to provide for any captured content regardless of content type; there is now the newly formed “Learning Portal Content Submission Guidelines” which provide all necessary information for submitting content for inclusion in the ARLIS/NA Learning Portal. Additionally, we worked with TEI to revise the points of access and discoverability for the Learning Portal on the AWS, which led to the addition of the ‘Learning Portal’ at the top of the navigation bar with aforementioned content located directly on the page.

One of our proudest accomplishments over the past year was the ‘Future Recommendations for the ARLIS/NA Learning Portal’ document in which we were able to share our opinion for the value of an Open Access resource. We were delighted when the Learning Portal was announced as Open Access to anyone who wished to sign up, and we feel that this will truly move the content, the Society, and its membership forward in the coming years.

ARLIS/NA Strategic Plan: PDC-Ed Tech has met the ARLIS/NA Strategic Plan in the following areas as described above. With the absorption of the subcommittee, its roles and responsibilities into PDC, I have simply outlined which areas of the Strategic Plan have been met on behalf of the Ed Tech Subcommittee.
Goal I: Articulate New Directions and Identity for the Profession
• Leverage and promote the art information professionals' skills beyond the library context;
• Identify new membership and development opportunities to move the profession forward;
• Advocate the art information professionals' value and relevance so as to strengthen our membership's standing within our institutions and their respective constituencies;
• Provide opportunities for members to participate in shaping the role of the profession in the changing environment of art information and scholarship;

Goal II: Expand Mentoring, Management, and Transition Skills
• Extend and encourage professional development, continuing education, networking and mentoring opportunities, for both mid-career and senior career professionals

Goal III: Create Stronger Leadership through Promotion, Cooperation and Advocacy
• Expand the Society's programs to attract those new to the art information profession and those from a diverse range of institutions;
• Foster partnerships and affiliations with other professional organizations by identifying opportunities for dialogue and collaboration;
• Build stronger partnerships and programming with our North American, European and international organizations;
• Promote active chapter involvement as a vital stepping stone towards future societal leadership;

Goal V: Strengthen the Society’s Communication and Operational Infrastructure
• Continually explore ways in which to enhance the Society's virtual presence through its website and other social media;
• Facilitate the transfer of leadership and the overall cohesion of the committees, divisions, sections, chapters and liaisons over time by identifying the tools and best practices for record retention of their accomplishments.

Issues for the Executive Board would be the need for back-end cleanup of user groups in the Learning Portal, which could be done by TEI, and the eventual need for assessment of the Learning Portal. Some work should eventually be done to assess content, navigation, usability, overall use and purpose, publicity, and the possible use of the 'Courses' section in the future.

The creation of a Learning Portal Coordinator position as a leadership role on PDC, with two accompanied places on PDC, is a strategic and well-placed initiative within PDC that I believe will bring further success and collaboration for the Professional Development Committee. I very much look forward to seeing how things evolve and change as ARLIS/NA continues to grow and expand within our profession and beyond.