Annual Report 2015
Academic Library Division
Mid-year Report

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Leadership: Cara List, moderator
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Membership: We do not have collected data on how many ARLIS/NA members consider themselves part of the Academic Division, but our listserv membership is 435 as of February 1, 2016.

Activities:
1. This year we focused some attention on the listserv and removed a number of bouncing email addresses, most likely belonging to people who have moved to new jobs but have not updated their information on our listserv. Additionally, a discussion was launched on the listserv this year. The desired outcome was the revitalization of the listserv as a home for collaborative problem solving, discussion and sharing of ideas regarding academic art libraries. However the discussion required considerable coaxing and thrived only briefly. It is possible that the listserv is not as effective a tool as it may have once been, and that another form of communication may serve our needs more effectively. A discussion of the listserv will be part of our meeting at the annual conference. Due to the fact that our meeting is scheduled at 7:00am on Thursday morning, I suspect that it may not be as well attended as usual, so the discussion of the listserv and its future may continue on the listserv after the conference.

2. The discussion topic was one suggested by ARLIS/NA President-elect, Heather Gendron, and covered the idea of creating a toolkit including sample instructional materials that librarians and visual resource professionals could use to instruct students, faculty and other campus scholars about fair use in the visual arts has been introduced to the listserv. A number of members expressed interest in this project, and I expressed interest in taking on this project as a project for members of the Academic Division.

Future plans include:
Continuing to generate discussion that will lead to better understanding of a variety of issues, communication about common issues and solutions and the potential for proposing projects in which the product is useful to art librarians in academic positions. At the 2015 business meeting we held a discussion forum for the first time (or the first time in many years) about Roger Schonfeld’s Ithaka S&K report Supporting the Changing Practices of Art Historians. This year we will continue the practice of holding a discussion forum during our conference meeting time. We will
discuss launching our discussion forum as a separate session proposal in the future. These discussion fora would have a panel of speakers who would each provide a 3 minute introduction, but the bulk of the session would be question, answers and discussion. Our annual business meeting would follow the session and would consist of our usual business in addition to plans for the next forum, as well as a breakdown of what was discussed and a conversation about whether any practical projects should be pursued as a result of our experience. This year, however, our discussion will take place as last year’s did within our meeting. The discussion topic will be “Scholarly communication, intellectual property, and open access.” This topic was chosen through a vote held on the ARLIS-ALD listserv in which members chose from the following three possible topics:

1. Digital Humanities and data management;
2. Scholarly communication, intellectual property, and open access;
3. “Collections & Content Centered Stewardship” models.

Respectfully submitted by Cara List
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• ARLIS/NA Headquarters: info@arlisna.org