The incoming leaders of the Book Art Special Interest Group are Sha Towers and Allison Jai O’Dell.

This year, the Book Art SIG has continued to develop its core projects and to progress with new initiatives. At the 2015 ARLIS/NA conference, thirty members of the Book Art SIG met to discuss accomplishments, clarify projects, and determine future directions. Notes from the meeting were published on the Book Art SIG blog.

The Artists’ Book Thesaurus working group of the Book Art SIG has continued to make strides with the thesaurus. This valuable resource will provide greatly needed standardization and a controlled vocabulary for the field. This year, the working group completed the thesaurus scope notes with the help of co-editors Amy Dawn Wickner, Roberta Brody, and Josh Hockensmith. In addition, Allison Jai O’Dell presented about the thesaurus for the ACRL Arts Section Virtual Midwinter Discussion Forum. A recording of the webinar is available.

The ARLIS/NA Book Art SIG blog (http://arlisnabookartsig.blogspot.com) remains an important venue for sharing initiatives, projects, events, and scholarship in the book art librarianship field. We have continued soliciting and publishing guest posts from members. Some of the innovative projects and collections showcased include: circulating bookbinding samples, incorporating the Corcoran Artists’ Book Collection at George Washington University, using online exhibits for outreach, and an artists’ books game night and listening party. Although it is less formal than a journal, it is an important venue for publishing about book art librarianship. Since it is open access, the Book Art SIG blog has a wide reach, impacting both contributors and readers. We also make an effort to promote and advocate for book art programming, workshops, and tours during the annual conference each year by posting about book art-related conference events.

After three years of co-moderating the Book Art SIG, Amanda and Michelle are stepping down. We have been coordinating by email and conference call with the incoming leaders, Sha and Allison, to create a smooth transition. We look forward to seeing where their new ideas take this energetic and productive group.