Annual Report 2016
Research Awards Subcommittee

Submitted by: Laurel Bliss
lbliss@mail.sdsu.edu
619-594-4446

LEADERSHIP:

Chair: Laurel Bliss  
Vice-Chair: Lindsey Reynolds  
Members: Breanne Crumpton, Stephanie Frontz, Amy Furness

• Amy Furness accepted an appointment to the subcommittee and will serve from 2016-2019.

A Vice-Chair and three new members will need to be selected and recruited before the 2017-18 award cycle, ideally in the spring/summer.

ACTIVITIES:

Award Websites and Forms:

• Worldwide Books Awards for Publications: Guidelines and Application Form  
• Worldwide Books Award for Electronic Resources: Guidelines and Application Form  
• H.W. Wilson Foundation Research Award: Guidelines and Application Form

The subcommittee is grateful to the H.W. Wilson Foundation and Worldwide Books for their continued support of the three research awards for the ARLIS/NA membership.

Procedures:

The subcommittee continues to use a Google Drive folder to share documents with the group and communicated via email, as needed to coordinate and discuss logistics for the award cycle. Award announcements were posted to the ARLIS-L listserv and advertised through avenues such as the ARLIS Chapter lists. Applications were collected online via Google Forms (links to the applications and guidelines are provided above). In previous years the subcommittee had reviewed the most recent issues of Art Documentation for potential nominations for the Worldwide Books Award for Publications. We did not continue this practice, but it should be considered for 2017.

Announcements for the award applications were sent out in early November, with a reminder sent out in early December. The application deadline was December 15, 2016.
Eligibility of applications was an issue this year. The subcommittee felt that the Wormser application for the Worldwide Books Award for Electronic Resources was the strongest, even though it had 5 participants and the rules state a limit of 4. The appropriate procedure is to discuss it with Kelly Fiske of Worldwide Books, who in this case was kind enough to accept the subcommittee's recommendation.

Applications:

The chart below lists the number of applicants for each of the research awards this year, as well as for the previous five award cycles. The subcommittee was disappointed to receive zero applications for the H.W. Wilson award. Similar concerns to those mentioned last year regarding the timing of the award applications were also at play this year, with the award advertisement happening around the holidays. With the Annual Conference being scheduled in early February, the subcommittee's timeline was extremely tight.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>WORLDWIDE PUBLICATIONS</th>
<th>WORLDWIDE ELECTRONIC</th>
<th>H.W. WILSON</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015-2016</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
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<td>4 (plus 1 subcommittee nomination)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013-2014</td>
<td>4 (plus 2 subcommittee nominations)</td>
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<td>2012-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
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</table>

Award Winners:

Worldwide Books Award for Publications (up to $2,000 for both Worldwide awards)

- Robert Craig Bunch, for his book, *The Art of Found Objects: Interviews with Texas Artists* is the winner of the Worldwide Books Award for Publications with an award of $1,000.

Worldwide Books Award for Electronic Resources (up to $2,000 for both Worldwide awards)

- Jennifer Wormser, Elsa Loftis, Sue Maberry, Lauren MacDonald, and Tony White, for their Lynda.com online tutorial *Information Literacy with Elsa Loftis* is the winner of the Worldwide Books Award for Electronic Resources with an award of $1,000.

ARLIS/NA Strategic Directions

The Research Awards recognize, support, and reward the contributions that ARLIS members make to the field of art information and librarianship. The Worldwide awards encourage and acknowledge scholarly publications by the ARLIS/NA membership and the H.W. Wilson award provides financial support for members’ current and/or proposed research projects.

In doing so, the Research Awards support the ARLIS/NA Strategic Directions in one main area:
Art Information Professionals
The Society shall support the evolving role of art information professionals through education, mentoring, and professional development opportunities that foster excellence and innovation.

TO BRING TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Recommendations:

• To enhance the formality of the award notification process, it would be nice to have a template (Word document) made available to the committees so that we may send letters with Societal branding to winners.

• The involvement of the Chair of the Awards Committee continued to be quite helpful in the recruitment and appointment process for the subcommittee members and chairs. Logistically, it would be useful if a set time period for recruitment and appointments for the coming year could be defined, to ensure the subcommittee membership is approved and in place well in advance of fall.