Activities

The Cataloging Section met at the 2016 ARLIS/NA conference in Seattle. The link to the liaison annual reports on Sherman Clarke’s blog was provided (http://artcataloging.net/alagen.html). The Cataloging Section discussed the results of the survey sent to members by Moderator Andrea Puccio. Section members indicated interest in workshops, email newsletters, and instructional documentation, and these ideas were discussed.

The Book Art Special Interest Group’s Artists’ Book Thesaurus was presented and discussed by the Cataloging Section. Because the Cataloging Section and Book Art SIG met simultaneously, members of the Book Art SIG were not available to present the resource. Members noted that the Artists’ Book Thesaurus needed approval by the Cataloging Advisory Committee, and this information was passed along to the Book Art SIG moderators following the conference. Following the conversation about the thesaurus, Cataloging Section members discussed interest in creating a best practices document and/or a workshop about using the thesaurus, in conjunction with the Book Art SIG.

Janis Young of the Policy and Standards Division, Library of Congress gave a talk about cataloging developments at the Library of Congress. She discussed LCDGT (demographic group terms) and LCGFT (genre/form terms) and answered questions about their applications art library cataloging.

After the conference, moderators from the Cataloging Section and Book Art SIG discussed feedback about the Cataloging Advisory Section review of the Artists’ Book Thesaurus. In addition, the moderators discussed the interest in collaborating on a book art cataloging best practices document. This document would advance instructional and best practices documentation, indicated as an interest of Cataloging Section members through the survey and the annual meeting. The scope of the potential project was discussed, to determine whether this would be a shorter document, such as a white paper, or a longer manual, such as a DCRM-Artists' Books (Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials-Artists' Books). The idea of collaboration between ARLIS/NA and RBMS (the Rare Book and Manuscript Section of ACRL) Bibliographic Standards Committee (BSC) came up. Such a large project could benefit from collaboration between the two organizations. Allison Jai O'Dell, Book Art SIG co-moderator, began to get feedback about the idea from RBMS, but was not able to formally present it for feedback during the midwinter conference. The idea is currently pending. Depending on feedback from RBMS, the Cataloging Section and Book Art SIG may draft a proposal to circulate to the ARLIS/NA Board, and send out a call for participants.
ARLIS/NA Strategic Direction Action Items

GOAL 1: Articulate New Directions and Identify for the Profession:
- Action: identify new membership
  - By posting on AUTOCAT and other cataloging related listservs and emphasizing selecting the Cataloging Section when first joining ARLIS/NA.
  - By contacting library and information science instructors to let them know about art-related cataloging activities within ARLIS/NA and their local chapters
  - By sending out an email about the annual meeting to all ARLIS/NA members
- Action: Promote new directions in cataloging at ARLIS/NA annual conferences
  - By proposing and advocating for more cataloging-related conference sessions
  - By offering mini-presentations during annual meeting (in progress)
  - By promoting cataloging-related conference events to members through social media or the listserv

GOAL 2: Expand Mentoring, Management, and Transition Skills:
- Action: introduce mentoring opportunities
  - By shepherding new cataloging professionals giving mini-presentations at the conference section meeting through the process of presenting at a conference. (IN PROGRESS)
  - Analyzing survey results to match needs with future initiatives. (IN PROGRESS)

GOAL 3: Create Stronger Leadership through Promotion, Cooperation and Advocacy:
- Action: foster partnerships with other ARLIS groups
  - By forming a closer bond with ARLIS/NA’s Cataloging Advisory Committee (CAC) – the CAC is necessary as a standing committee to hammer out policy on cataloging issues, the Cataloging Section appropriately can aim at training and collaborating with them on non-policy issues.
  - By collaborating with the Book Arts SIG on developing best practices for cataloging book art. (IN PROGRESS)
- Action: build stronger partnerships/programming with European organizations
  - By contacting our European counterparts (ARLIS/UK & Ireland, etc.) about program ideas

GOAL 5: Create Stronger Leadership through Promotion, Cooperation and Advocacy:
- Action: improve communication across the organization:
  - By creating a Cataloging Section listserv, blog, or wiki
- Action: facilitate the transfer of leadership by identifying tools/best practices for accomplishments
  - By ensuring that moderators mentor and involve vice-moderators in all section activities.