Leadership Update

The incoming coordinator (or co-coordinators) for 2017 will be decided at the SIG meeting during the 2017 ARLIS/NA conference in New Orleans.

Membership Update
As of January 15, 2017, 157 ARLIS/NA members have expressed interest in the Dec Arts SIG and are part of the SIG Google Group.

Activities
In January 2016 the Dec Arts SIG launched a website/blog, available at http://decarts.arlisna.org

The Dec Arts SIG held its 2016 annual meeting during the ARLIS/NA Conference in Seattle, Washington, on March 10, 2016. There were four members in attendance. Topics covered during the meeting included the following:

- Prospects for collaboration, including an opportunity to work with the Smithsonian Institution Libraries on a makers’ marks digitization project, and the creation of a resource list page on the Dec Arts website
- Session proposals for the ARLIS/NA Conference in New Orleans
- Possible creation of a featured libraries/librarians page on SIG website
- Discussion of the web archiving work being done by the Smithsonian Libraries and the Library of Congress, and how to ensure Dec Arts resources and websites are being captured.
In partnership with the Reference and Information Services Section (RISS), the Dec Arts SIG organized a session at the 2016 ARLIS/NA conference entitled “Contemporary Glass: Seattle and Beyond.” The panel took place in Seattle on Thursday, March 10th, from 3:30-5:00p.m. Beth Hylen, Reference Librarian at the Corning Museum of Glass and RISS coordinator, moderated the panel. Featured speakers included Hylen, Ken Clark, archivist for glass artist Dale Chihuly; Jim Baker, Executive Director of the Pilchuck Glass School; Walter Lieberman, a Seattle-based glass artist; and Perry Price, Director of Education at the American Craft Council (who at the last minute could not attend, so Beth read his paper).

Following the success of the “Contemporary Glass” panel, Beth Hylen is currently working on a paper about glass resources for Art Documentation.

ARLIS/NA Strategic Directions
The Decorative Arts SIG devoted time in 2016 to the following ARLIS/NA Strategic Directions:

**Strategic Direction:** Leadership and Advocacy - The Society shall speak and act on behalf of its members to advance, validate, sustain, and advocate for the profession and the value of art libraries.

**SIG Activity:** Facilitate an ongoing dialogue concerning new advances in the decorative arts through the establishment and continuous update of a website and blog for the SIG

**Status:** In progress. Both a website and Google group were launched in 2016; need for help with, and a commitment to, updating of content; plan to put a call out to SIG members at 2017 meeting

**Strategic Direction:** 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.

**SIG Activity:** Provide resources and opportunities for ARLIS/NA members working in the decorative arts to present at conferences and contribute to dialogue on issues in this specialized area of the arts. In addition, raise awareness of organizations and collections devoted to decorative arts research and preservation.

**Status:** In progress. Dec Arts co-sponsored a successful session at the 2016 conference, but failed to submit a proposal for 2017 conference. SIG leaders are resolved to propose a session for 2018.

**Strategic Direction:** Collections and Access - The Society shall seek opportunities for collaboration across institutions and cultural organizations to promote the informed management, preservation, discovery, and access to collections amid their evolving publishing manifestations.

**SIG Activity:** Conversations continue among SIG members about ways to collaborate on the digitization of shared makers’ marks resources. As little progress has been made, we’ve broadened our focus to ways we can share knowledge of resources in general. In 2016 a “Resources” page was established on the SIG website to share online tools useful to information professionals working in the decorative arts. We hope to continue to grow this list.

**Status:** In progress.

**Issues/Requests for the Executive Board**
The Dec Arts SIG has no issues for the Executive Board at this time.