Cataloging Section

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Leadership:  Emily Walz, Moderator  
Adam Robinson, Vice Moderator

Activities

The Cataloging Section met at the 2018 ARLIS/NA conference in New York. During the meeting, section members gave reports and updates from various committees: Karen Stafford briefed the group on the ALA Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access, John Maier reported on the MARC Advisory Committee, Sherman Clarke gave an update on the activities of the ALA Subject Analysis Committee and the LCGFT (Library of Congress Genre Form Terms) Art Project, Bronwen Bitetti had a report from the Cataloging Advisory Committee, and Marie-Chantal L’Ecuyer-Coelho presented on ARTFRAME.

After updates, Kelly Swikard, Resource Description Librarian at the Decker Library at the Maryland Institute College of Art, gave two mini-presentations: “The Ties that Bind Books: Adding Creator Characteristics” and “Binding Fields to Artist Book Records and Cataloging in RDA for Art Exhibition Publications: A Practical Handout”. The handouts were posted on the Section’s blog and ARLIS-L after the conference.

Discussion was then opened up to the group. Moderator Emily Walz gave an update about the Section’s blog, Catablog (catablogweb.wordpress.com). The blog was launched in late 2017, thanks to the efforts of previous moderator Chantal Sulkow. There was discussion about what the group would like to get out of the blog, and how to unify content the Section might find interesting or useful from multiple sources. The group was responsive to the idea of collaborating with other cataloging and metadata groups both within and outside of ARLIS/NA for generating content for the blog and developing future conference sessions. The group generated many ideas for future conference sessions, workshops and documentation they would like to see.

The Section continued to develop content for Catablog, resulting in seven posts within the calendar year. The blog allowed the section to successfully engage with readers outside of ARLIS/NA, although the number of non-ARLIS readers was small. The blog is a good way to aggregate news, announcements, and resources for the section, but other avenues of communication within and to membership may still be pursued; Vice Moderator Adam Robinson has been exploring Slack as an option.
ARLIS/NA Strategic Directions & Action Items

**Leadership and Advocacy**: To speak and act on behalf of ARLIS/NA members to advance, validate, sustain, and advocate for the profession and the value of art libraries, as well as train its members to be advocates within their individual context.
- By developing and advocating for cataloging and metadata-related conference sessions and workshops
- By hosting discussion and mini-presentations during the annual meeting
- By maintaining a blog (Catablog) and posting to the ARLIS-L listserv

**Organizational Advancement**: As the leading art information organization, ARLIS/NA shall strengthen the profession through increased visibility, collaborative partnerships, international networks, and membership engagement.
- By maintaining a publicly available WordPress blog (Catablog) relevant to non-ARLIS members
- By continuing to foster a relationship with ARLIS/NA’s Cataloging Advisory Committee (CAC)

**Art Information Professionals**: ARLIS/NA shall support the evolving role of art information professionals through education, mentoring, and professional development opportunities that foster excellence and innovation.
- By providing opportunities for new professionals to contribute to annual meetings and the Section’s blog
- By encouraging emerging professionals to volunteer for Vice Moderator and produce content for Catablog, the Cataloging Section’s blog
- By ensuring moderators involve vice-moderators in all Section decisions and activities

**Innovation and Technology**: ARLIS/NA shall serve as a community of practice for the exploration, cultivation, and sharing of innovative approaches and emerging technologies in libraries and art librarianship.
- By maintaining the section blog (Catablog) and exploring other internet-based platforms to expand and facilitate communication within and outside of the Cataloging Section

**Collections and Access**: ARLIS/NA shall seek opportunities to facilitate collaborations across institutions and cultural organizations in order to promote the informed management, preservation, discovery, and access to collections amid their evolving publishing manifestations.
- By providing opportunities for catalogers and metadata managers to expand and maintain their skill sets, leading to better collections management and access within their institutions

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