ARLIS MOQ (Montreal, Ottawa, Quebec)

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Executive committee (positions as of January 2018):

- Vice-president: Simon Barry, Head Librarian (National Theatre School of Canada)
- Secretary: Adèle Flannery, Public Services Librarian (Université du Québec à Montréal)
- Treasurer: Sarah Severson, Coordinator, Digital Library Services, (McGill University Libraries)
- Membership Secretary: Jenna Dufour, Reference & Subject Librarian (Library, Concordia University), Montreal

Report

- Bi-annual meetings
The spring meeting was held at the École d’Architecture of Université Laval in Québec City and at the Musée de l’Amérique Française. About 15 members attended the event which was a success according to the comments. Members from Montreal, Québec City and Ottawa were present.

The École d’Architecture is located in one of the oldest structure in Quebec City and we were given a tour of the building by Marianne Demers-Desmarais, reference librarian for architecture and fine arts. The Musée de l’Amérique Française holds the library of the Séminaire de Québec that was founded at the end of the 17th century.

The fall meeting was held at Artexte in Montreal. About 15 members attended the event. As for the spring meeting, the comments were very positive. Members from Montreal and Ottawa attended the event.

Hélène Brousseau, librarian, gave us a tour of the collection, emphasizing the importance of their collection of “mail art”. Later in the afternoon, we were given a tour of Atelier A.Piroir which offers “offers the exceptional opportunity to discover the processes of printmaking within its creative framework. (...) In this unique space it is possible to follow the evolution of the printed work from its inception to its exhibition”.

- 2021 Conference
The 2021 ARLIS/NA conference was presented to the members on both the spring and fall meetings. To introduce the project to the members, the focus on the spring presentation was on the theme of the 1995 conference. The 2021 proposal itself was also presented.

In the fall meeting, the initial steps of the planning process were presented, the first one obviously being the creation of the organizing committee (specifically local arrangement and program co-chairs).

- **MOQDOC**
  The MOQDOC, ARLIS MOQ’s journal had a quite difficult year as no issue has been published. A meeting was organized in January with interested members to recruit a new editorial committee. During that meeting, the idea of turning the MOQDOC into a blog that could be integrated into the chapter’s newly redesigned website was also proposed.

  François Dansereau and Rachel Harris volunteered to participate in the editorial committee. They proposed the idea of creating “thematic” issues. A call for paper was issued twice during the year.

  The idea of turning the MOQDOC into a blog was met with both skepticism and enthusiasm. The original “magazine” format has a lot of supporters and is considered a key feature of our chapter. On the other hand, this format requires a lot of effort and a high-level understanding of advanced designed software such as Illustrator and Photoshop. In this context, the creation of an easily managed blog could solve this problem as well as providing more flexibility in terms of publishing.

- **Design thinking workshop**
  Adèle Flannery and Sarah Severson proposed to organize a Design Thinking workshop in May 2018. The activity was planned for May 12th and a speaker was invited. Unfortunately, registration was very low and the event was cancelled.

- **Outreach activities**
  In the spring of 2018, the chapter executive committee participated in the annual career fair organized by McGill University’s School of Information Studies along with Université de Montréal’s École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l’information.

  The idea of organizing outreach activities specifically targeted to C.É.G.E.P.’s (equivalent of college in Québec) students studying in Information and Library Technologies was proposed but never carried through. However, many students C.É.G.E.P. participated in the fall meeting.

- **Final words as former president of the chapter**
  As president of the chapter, it has been a challenging year on a personal level. I have to admit that I struggled a lot with finding balance between my commitment to the chapter and the lack of motivation I met with the members.

  I am actually quite disappointed with my performance, but I am wondering how I could have behaved otherwise. Indeed, I could not have carried out all those projects on my own, especially given the lack of institutional support for my employer at the time.

  Perhaps I have been too ambitious and over-estimated how much work the members are willing to invest in the chapter.

  However, I think that the two bi-annual meetings have been a success. Maintaining the sense of community among the members is the most important task the executive committee has to take care of. In that sense, 2018 was nevertheless an interesting one.