Strategic Directions Committee

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Date submitted February 23, 2019

Leadership Update
- Incoming chair: Emilee Mathews
- Outgoing chair: Sarah Carter

Strategic Directions Committee (SDC) members met via GoTo Meeting software five times throughout the year to discuss the work on the Society. SDC members also attended the leadership institute at the annual conference in New York City. The SDC chair attended leadership institute planning & follow-up meetings, as well as the post-conference board meeting. Committee members created two reports for the Executive Board, giving feedback on the ongoing project and service charters.

The 2018 Environmental Scan report was designed to track trends within the field of librarianship. Committee members reviewed and synthesized information from numerous sources to provide the board with recommendations for goals which aligned with ARLIS/NA strategic directions.

The SDC examined the Key Generative Thinking Opportunities (an outcome from the Leadership Institute) and ranked projects based upon their priority for action in relationship to stated ARLIS/NA strategic directions. The committee then provided the board with feedback in the form of a report detailing Resilient Strategies and Goals. This report detailed six goals - all framed around the themes of identity, diversity, and education - with accompanying proposed action plans. Each action plan detailed leadership, stakeholders, timeline, and potential barriers to success.

After board review of the Resilient Strategies and Goals and Environmental Scan documents, the SDC was able to take action on priority goals. The board encouraged the SDC to pursue items that are “low hanging fruit,” while simultaneously pursuing top priority goals. From the Resilient Strategies and Goals document, the SDC is addressing the top two goals:
- Reach out and expand underrepresented groups within the membership.
- Re-evaluate and broaden who (roles) and what (skills) it may mean to be an art information professional in the future and align ARLIS/NA’s activities with these projections.

And from the Environmental Scan, the SDC will be pursuing these two goals initially:
Incorporate agile design and design thinking into the society’s/the profession’s mindset; encourage failure and other signs of productive growth and trying things out.

Investigate what products, resources, and tools ARLIS members use in order to better target sponsorships and other development opportunities.

Other accomplishments:

- Worked with ARLIS/NA Secretary to improve communication of board minutes and updates to the action scorecard. The resulting improved action scorecard is less repetitious, and therefore easier to navigate.
- Held joint committee meeting with the Diversity Committee to discuss relevant resilient strategies, and identified the Diversity Committee’s contributions.

**Strategic Directions**

All work undertaken this past year by the SDC was related to the ARLIS/NA Strategic Directions. Our work on the two documents this year was most closely aligned with the Organizational Advancement strategic direction. That work is ongoing.

**Issues for the Executive Board**

The SDC continues to have challenges in communicating through established methods across the Society about current news. The incoming chair could potentially lead a new conversation about exploratory methods for communication between the SDC and other stakeholders.