Co-Chair L. Abrams began the meeting by explaining the process involved in preparing the 2006-9 Strategic Plan draft (March 2005), which included conducting two membership surveys and an Environmental Scan. After gathering input from the membership in Houston, a revised draft will be crafted and presented to the Executive Board for their consideration at their mid-year meeting this summer. L. Stylianos reviewed the process of the Environmental Scan and discussed the landscapes and trends that emerged. A question and commentary period followed.

Three major topics were discussed during the Forum/Focus group:

1. the process for the development, implementation, and assessment of action items,
2. clarification and consistent use of terminology to describe what people and subjects ARLIS/NA as a professional organization supports, and
3. ARLIS/NA’s role in advocacy and in watching evolving public policy that has a direct impact on librarianship and visual resources professionals.

Additionally, specific suggestions were made to add diversity language to Goal III (advocacy) and to emphasize collaboration.