35th Annual Conference
Sheraton Colony Square, Atlanta, Georgia, April 26-May 1

Academic Libraries Division (ALD) meeting
Saturday, April 28, 2007, 3:30-5:00pm

Current Officers

In Attendance

Meeting brought to order by Lucie Stylianopoulos, at 3:36pm.

Announcements:
- Welcome to all.
- Rijn Templeton, vice moderator, taking over ALD next year.
- Acknowledgement of Greg Hatch for starting the new ARLIS-ALD listserv.

Deborah Ultan Boudewyns, incoming ARLIS/NA president:
- 2007-2008 will be a “Year of Transitions”
- Assessment Task Force Report & Recommendations
  - A lot to discuss.

Ken Soehner, incoming ARLIS/NA vice president:
- Liaison to the Divisions from board
- His presidency will be a “Year of Implementation”
- Looking forward to working with ALD

Lucie – Does the ALD want to exist as such?
- Point – ALD is the largest group within ARLIS/NA
Nedda – Divisions should be set up around “What we do” (function), rather than “where we do it.”

Lucie – What happens if ALD doesn’t exist?

Rebecca P. (Assessment Task Force member) – Based on surveys to ARLIS/NA constituency, there was a feeling of opening up more communication and wanting to be able to cross over into other groups more easily. A more open structure. Task Force want members’ suggestions for how that will happen.

Hannah (Yale) – One possible model might be to keep Divisons, but also set up “tracks” or themes at the conference for discussion points in meeting sessions.

Kathleen – Concurs that directed talking points would be useful.

Lucie – Agrees that conversations with people who have similar issues is useful. Can also see Division serving as an “advocate,” too.

Nedda – Art schools (as compared to “academic” universities/colleges) have similar issues. The artificial borders of the Divisions may be barriers.

Joy – Some academic librarians are liaisons to schools of art and design, as well as liaisons to other departments. Perhaps ALD could meet (combined) with other groups.

Rijn – There will always be conflicts of which group’s meeting you want to go to. Doesn’t care what the “label” is (discussion group, round table). Structured conversations, rather than ‘big blank meeting’ would give attendees a better idea of whether they want to attend. Would give new members a better idea too.

Amy – Let’s track trends/themes from the listservs throughout the year to give ideas of what themes are discussed in annual meetings. May also influence people to be more proactive online, pre-conference. If there is no online discussion, it may say a lot about people’s interest in a Division.

Lucie – Don’t we have room to put ALD-related information/policies/documents on ARLIS website? (Answer: Yes.)

Doris (U New Mexico) – Previous conference structure no longer requires presentations be sponsored by RTs/Divs/IGs.

Linda (U Wisc- Madison) – More productive if we have single-topic, focused group meetings (budgets, for example). Dissolving ALD wouldn’t preclude us from having more granular discussions/meetings at conference.

Beverly Mitchell – Academic librarians serve a different population (faculty/students). Does that change our needs for discussion?
Lucie – We share traits with art and design school librarians.

Nancy: Art and Design School Division is new and felt the need to become a group since they are usually single librarians or from small libraries, but we share many similar issues.

Lucie: Does being in a small library affect someone’s ability to fund a trip to ARLIS (being an officer is worth better funding)?

Janice – That doesn’t speak to the point.

Jeanne – It [ALD meetings?] would provide for another forum to present.

Janine (UT-Austin) – If we continue as ALD, does that automatically mean we’ll have space? If we’re not a group, do we not automatically get space? There’s a benefit to being able to network.

Rebecca P. – Task force will be looking at the space issue.

Amy (?) – Why do we need a space if we don’t actually have a topic, theme to discuss.

Joan – A lot of us have moved from one type of library to another (museum, academic, design school, etc). What we need is a session that looks at the overview of the profession. Issues and trends, what’s going out and what’s coming in. What people may really want is “What should I be focusing my energy on in the next year?”

Lucie – Concurs with Nancy and Joan.

Hannah – Concurs with Amy and worried about the space issue. Who [academic libraries in conference city] wouldn’t want to host us [ALD] at their institutions?

Ruth – Alternate years, meet with museum people. My library offers a museum certificate, a studio art program, so Studio and Design Division is of interest.

Jennifer H. (Indianapolis) – Thinks it’s a good idea to have the Division meet at her library: tour, online resources, etc. Would like to see discussion on the impact of digital collections, etc. Working with students in many different areas (i.e. music, multimedia collection), but not necessarily art majors.

Jeanne (UNLV) – Co-chairing program planning for Denver 2008 conference. Deadline for proposals will be June 15. Hopes for a flurry of discussion of ideas for programs on ARLIS-ALD before then. Likes Joan’s idea of “trends.”

Lucie – Question for Jeanne: Could ALD keep itself constituted and make a proposal as “group”? (Yes, that’s allowed, but Division sponsorship is not required).
Joan – In response to Nedda’s original idea: Make a list of topics that are “unique” to just Academic. There might be less than we think; there’s likely more overlap with other groups.

Greg – To help alleviate concerns about not being able to attend two sessions offered simultaneously, ARLIS should webcast/podcast/vodcast the sessions. Archive them on the ARLIS website for future viewing. MPLA 2005 conference in Wyoming did this.

Ann – Question about relevancy on the survey. Her responses to that were based more on programming.

Rebecca – That question was meant to question the Society’s structure (hierarchy), not the relevancy of Divisions, etc. (Plug: tomorrow morning’s ASK ARLiS session came out of membership’s suggestions.)

Lucie – Hot Topics session is also the result of the ALD forum last year, but that didn’t get mentioned in the program this year.

Joan – It’s intimidating, as an individual, to go up against Divisions’ and RTs’ proposals.

Jeanne – Even when programming is discussed as a Division, the proposal still comes down to individuals. We talk more freely when we’re talking about concrete issues that bring us together (uniquely “academic”). This enriches us and we can bring them back home to our colleagues.

Amy – Content of programming should inform whether you’re interested. Listing a sponsoring Division may influence someone to come or not. We should be influenced by substantive content. This is what should drive programming and attendance issues. What’s most important is “who’s speaking.” It’s about content. We need to blur lines.

Sara (Rutgers) – Suggests a white paper presentation followed by a moderated discussion. A paper that raises issues that leads to discussion, which leads to a publication and a line on one’s CV.

Joy – Higher education issues (as per Jeanne): If we don’t have sessions dealing with these issues, we can’t be as vocal with our local colleagues (who go to ALA, etc) on relevant issues and learn from conversations at those sessions.

Stephanie (U of Rochester): One uniquely academic topic is “Institutional Repositories.”

Request by Greg to have attendees list as many “uniquely academic topics” as they can think of:
  - IRs
- Images in publishing, open access.
- E-dissertations, theses (What about art & Design students’ dissertations/theses)
  - Copyright issues, access, “What’s publication?”
- School of Informatics
- Moving image media (labs)
- Plagiarism, copyright issues in the digital realm from student level
- Teaching and assessing IL.
- University administration – Taking library buildings away, closing service points, seclusion of art libraries or closing stand-alone art libraries and combining with the main library.
- Relationship between library and department faculty/students (versus curators).
- Libraries and librarians to the classroom.
- Outreach to department faculty/students.
  - Especially when library doesn’t have a university-sponsored IL requirement.
- Librarians’ faculty status
- Chat reference/IM reference
- Roving librarians
- New programs (academic programs), without budget increases to Collection Development funds, etc.
- Accreditation support
- Music/Art therapy programs
- Institutional research about incoming student populations.
  - Participating in those research offices.

No vote taken on retaining Division status for ALD.

New Agenda item:
Barbara Rockenbach: JSTOR is taking new directions to address paucity of Art journals.
- 40+ Art journals
- They need us (academic librarians) to contact collections manager to tell her what’s most valuable to us.
- Annotated auction catalogs, exhibition catalogs, WWII materials,
- Moving outside of “periodical/serial” literature/documents.
  - i.e. Irish journal and rare monographs.
- Look at list of publishers that have not yet signed to collaborate with JSTOR.
  - List will be sent out on ARLIS-ALD
- Looking for a group-determined list of recommended titles.
- Will send out a list of current titles in: Arch, classics, archeology, etc.

Lucie – What about GESTA? (Yes, on the list).

Joy – American Periodical Series (ProQuest) – Images are of poor quality. Could a not-for-profit get access to those?
Lucie – Send ideas to ARLIS-ALD, we will compile it.

Rijn – Programming for Denver ideas to be sent to ARLIS-ALD.
  • Send another reminder to ARLIS-L with full directions to describe how to sign up.

Meeting adjourned – 4:50pm.