Session/Meeting Name: Architecture Section  
Date, Time: Thursday, March 24, 2011, 2:00-3:00 pm

Moderators: Kathy Edwards  
Recorder: Jesse Vestermark

[Many thanks and a Starbucks card to Jesse Vestermark, for recording the meeting:]

Introduction: Kathy Edwards, moderator

Jennifer Parker, Architecture Librarian, University of Notre Dame, will be next year’s moderator. Jennifer introduced herself and passed around a sign-in sheet.

Nomination for Amy Trendler, vice-moderator was announced. Amy is the Architecture Librarian at Ball State University.

Suzanna Simor moved that we unanimously elect Amy vice-moderator, Janine Henri seconded.

Reports: Janine Henri, SAH Liaison

Janine announced benefits to membership in the Society of Architectural Historians (SAH). The 2011 SAH conference is coming up in New Orleans, April 13-17.

SAH publishes a quarterly list of architectural exhibition catalogs, compiled by Barbara Opar (Syracuse University), who also produces the Society's Booklist—both very useful to librarians. SAH meeting information is online.

SAH offers excellent study tours, including tour fellowships for graduate students: recent example, Civil Rights Memorials tour, 2009.

The SAH Journal has gone 2.0 with Google Earth models, videos, etc. and set a template for JSTOR’s adoption of the same web format.

Two new “Buildings of the US” volumes were published this year.

The SAH gives publication awards, which are good to review for potential acquisitions.

Online the SAH has a wealth of information on US architectural schools, bibliographies, etc. and now offers a networking site for upstart regional and/or topical 'communities' within SAH. Sherman Clarke suggested we consider setting up a librarians community.
There is a pedagogy community putting together syllabi and other teaching materials from the history of architectural instruction.


Approximately forty attendees this year—the largest turnout yet.

The new CEO of Material Connexion also attended. The company’s interface and subscription parameters have changed and they are happy to establish free trials. The company is also exploring the possibility of a Portland, OR location.

Other presenters included Le Corbusier Plans/Echelle-1 Internationale, North America and Archivision.

Five papers were presented based on a symposium on the future of the architecture library.

Next year’s conference is in Boston, and will be held in conjunction with the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA). Jennifer Parker commented on the value of collaboration with the ACSA, the level of which has increased in recent years.

A call was put out to consider contributing to the AASL column in the ACSA news.

Patricia Kosco Cossard: (had been scheduled to present on the progress with JSTOR but was too ill to attend)

In Patricia’s absence, JSTOR Representative Alodie Larson reported that her company has taken our recommendation of core AASL list of recommended periodicals to heart and while it has been a challenge, they are progressing slowly. Alodie’s presentation to AASL on the same topic will be submitted to AASL's conference website.

Ann Whiteside: SAHARA update

An editorial meeting was held. One of the results was an energizing collaboration between architectural historians and librarians. They discussed funding, the value of the peer-review process, etc. Ann is about to finish her tenure as project manager but will continue to be involved with the editorial committee. A number of things are coming in—collections, contributions from faculty, roughly 50,000. The BUS files are also going online. For the next year, part of the work is how to begin integrating the SAH Journal, the BUS files and SAHARA. This involves ARTstor, University of Virginia Press and JSTOR. Allison Benedetti commented that a number of librarians present have been contributing to these efforts and there is continued interest in shared contribution and improving duplication issues. There is no new Mellon grant at this moment, though SAH has done remarkably well with funding in spite of the economic climate.

New Business:
Kathy: Creation of Guidelines to Assist with NAAB Accreditation Reporting

Kathy initiated a discussion on accreditation reports and creating a format for
writing a NAAB report since the experience has been very different for different librarians. The issue is that NAAB has removed the old guidelines and the new ones, while intended to simplify and streamline, are very vague and difficult to outline—especially for first-timers.

Henry Pisciotta advises that librarians look very carefully over the old guidelines that got cut out and pick three that you want to emphasize—because the old guidelines were "great" but encouraged overly-detailed reports. Also he pointed out that, the first step would be to advocate for yourself and make sure you’re involved and consulted in the writing and visitation interview process.

Janine moved we work with AASL jointly to create a template. Martha seconded. Kathy will follow up on this before the end of the present conference.

Final Announcements/Adjournment

Kathy proposed the formation of a panel development group for the Toronto conference in 2012, and asked for volunteers. Ted Goodman, Rebecca Cooper, and Kathy volunteered.

Hannah announced past student works digitization project at Princeton.

Martha Gonzalez introduced new member Kathryn Pierce, currently a PhD student at the UT-Austin School of Information, who is also participating in the New Voices in the Profession panel tomorrow.

Kathy will send out a request for members to join the NAAB task force, and will contact AASL president Jeff Alger to suggest a joint venture.

Kathy will also post a call on the Architecture Section listserv for Toronto panel development participants.

Jennifer Parker begins her tenure as Moderator, and Amy Trendler as Vice-moderator, at the close of this conference.

Respectfully submitted
Jesse Vestermark, Recorder

Kathy Edwards, Moderator
Jennifer Parker, Vice-moderator/Moderator-elect