Session/Meeting Name: Artist Files Working Group
Date, Time: 24 March 2011, 2:00-3:00pm

Chairs: Sally McKay ( Incoming Co-Chair) and Barbara Rominski
Recorder: Deirdre Donohue

Attendees: Approximately 30 attendees.

Welcome, Updates, Art Library Journal review:

* Jon Evans and Kraig Binkowski are the other partners in this group. Jon will be stepping up to his ARLIS/NA Presidential duties in the coming year, and Kraig is also stepping down as the Professional Resources Editor for ARLIS/NA.
* Kraig Binkowski posted much of documentation on the ARLIS/NA website, as he went, to share the process, and that was mentioned in the review. The documentation is posted under Online Publications. It still resides there, although the full directory is online. http://www.arlisna.org/pubs/onlinepubs/index.html#all
* The review only indicates minor structural criticisms – should we do anything about them? Do they affect the users in this group?
* Many people reviewed the fields and content before going online, so they are wondering about the efficacy of making changes.

Marketing, Promotion, & Spreading the word:

* The Artist Files Working Group is now seeking new volunteers to promote the directory at a grassroots level. Each ARLIS chapter or region should have someone to gather contributors and spread the word.
* The Artist Files Working Group will come up with a “boiler-plate” text for individuals/chapters doing promotion to use.
* It has already been announced on ARLIS-L and the project website, but we want to reach other colleagues.
* Regional promoters who volunteered at the conference:
  -- Northern California chapter: Barbara Rominski
  -- Southern California chapter: Sally McKay
  -- Pacific Northwest chapter: Traci Timmons
  -- Ohio Valley chapter: Maggie Castellani
  -- New York chapter: Francine Snyder and Samantha Deutch (incoming co-chair)
  -- DC/Maryland/Virginia: Roger Lawson
  -- Midstates chapter: Alba Fernandez-Keys
* Region promoters needed:
  -- Canada: Jonathan Franklin
* Katie Keller, incoming ARLIS International Relations Committee, will do international promotion of the publications and directory. We are looking for volunteers to assist in translation to promote the resources internationally.

* Isotta Poggi from Getty volunteered to help with Italian and German translations.

**Digitizing, Born-Digital Material, & Archive-IT:**

* Digital materials and digitizing materials: Francine Snyder did a survey, see directory.

* Barbara Rominski and Samantha Deutch have spoken with the “Internet Archive.”


  * There is a difficulty of effectively finding information for research purposes. It is too inclusive, but you can set the limits in the tool.

  * You can feed Archive-It the URLs now, but they are seeking a way of querying it so that it harvests the URLs itself.

  * The Archive-IT collection about American Art Collectors [Frick], linked to LC authority.

  * Francine Snyder at the Guggenheim is looking at Archiv-IT regarding capturing ephemeral information on artists in Middle East and other materials.

  * SFMOMA is doing a Getty funded online scholarly catalog project. SFMOMA wants it to be dynamic, interactive, but they want “editions” captured and cited subsequently.

  * Can this group work with Archive-IT and create some collaborative project that would benefit both? Archiv-IT will do a pilot project with the Artist Files Working Group, without charge, because they want our input. They want to involve cultural institutions and librarians.

  * The user-interface is rudimentary and we could definitely inform that, says Francine.

  * Barbara suggests a sub-group meet on it in the near future and will follow-up via the list-serv.

* Guggenheim looked into Decapod [Mellon funded found through Gunter Weibel] to establish affordable copy stand system standard for digitizing artist files at the Guggenheim. The vendor had a problem with the variety of formats in their files! They can only truly streamline if they have a consistent set up. [http://sites.google.com/site/decapodproject/](http://sites.google.com/site/decapodproject/)

  * The Decapod folks were interested, but not ready yet.

* National Archives used Endnote that way.

* Traci Timmons (SAM) and MIA – streamlining digitizing process of artist files.

* Institutions want us to digitize, but we have to figure out how to work on this.

* Francine Snyder is more concerned about access than high level reproduction qualities.

* They are looking forward to a RLG Round Table Paper coming out in June about this.
Other Comments:

* Francine asked about the Artist Files Online Directory statistics of users vs. contributors. Sally McKay and Barbara Rominski will check the system now that it has “gone public”.
* Francine’s survey is posted on the wiki. It has 53 respondents’ concerns.

Volunteers:

* Jon Evans is stepping down as head of the Artist File group thus the Working Group is looking for a co-chair to partner with Sally McKay.

  ** Please note, a Co-Chair has been selected, Samantha Deutch, The Frick.**

Goals:

* The coming year is about promotion and foregoing concerns.
* Work with the IRC to promote the information and online directory internationally.
* Research born-digital information and resources.

Adjourn.