Session/Meeting Name: Diversity Committee
Date, Time: Fri. Mar. 30, 2012, 12-1pm

Moderators: Meredith Kahn (outgoing chair), Patrick Tomlin (incoming chair)
Recorder: Patrick Tomlin

Attendees
Meredith Kahn (outgoing chair), Patrick Tomlin (incoming chair), Deborah Evans-Cantrell, Annette Haines, Susana Tejada, Lorna Peterson, Marilyn Russell (EB representative), Kai Alexis Smith

The meeting was open to all ARLIS/NA members interested in attending.

Agenda

A. Introductions.

B. Overview of the committee’s past activities. Meredith Kahn reviewed the DC’s charge within the context of the committee’s activities over the past year. The Diversity Committee is charged with developing and overseeing strategies for advancing diversity in art information fields by promoting broad participation in the profession and the Society and by supporting fully inclusive collections. In the past, DC activities have largely targeted programming events and other opportunities related to the annual conference. In particular, the committee has played a central role in finding recipients for the Alternative Voices speaker’s fund. For the most part, communication between members and committee meetings have taken place virtually over the previous few years. The DC is a standing committee.

C. ARLIS/NA Strategic Plan Action Item. The Diversity Committee is the primary agent for one Action Plan item in the 2011-2015 Strategic Plan: “Schedule appearances at college job fairs to promote art librarianship as a potential career path for students and to promote student membership in ARLIS/NA.” Going forward, the DC will work with Membership Committee and Professional Development Committee in the long-range organization and completion of this action item during the strategic plan period. Future meetings will discuss a “plan to plan,” i.e., brainstorming, and decision-making strategies for creating an infrastructure for implementation during the coming months.

No one present was able to attend the upcoming SPC joint meeting with PDC and MC (April 2, 2012) at the conference as a representative for the DC. Patrick will follow up on the results of the meeting.

D. Facilitating communication between committee members. In light of the DC’s responsibility for this strategic plan action item, establishing regular virtual meeting venue will be an immediate priority. Ideas for meeting outlets/committee tools included GoToMeeting (chat and phone conferencing), Google Groups, and Google Docs. EB rep Mari R. is going to investigate the possibility of an ARLIS-financed Basecamp subscription.
E. **Additional items.** Several DC action items and potential topics for upcoming meetings were discussed by those present. These included:

a. Schedule joint meeting with chairs/members of Membership and Professional Development Committees to discuss planning, coordination, and implementation of SP action item.
b. Invite joint members and members at large to participate in upcoming committee meetings.
c. Work with 2013 conference organizers to highlight Pasadena multiculturalism and diversity.
d. Liaison with colleagues in ALA, ACRL, Reforma, and other organizations with similar committee bodies or forms of representation. Explore opportunities for affiliate representation and/or presence at JCLC, NCAAL, and other conferences.
e. Consider compiling a list of resources (e.g., conferences, internships and fellowships, professional development opportunities, listservs) for DC’s arlisna.org webpage ([http://www.arlisna.org/organization/com/diversity/index.html](http://www.arlisna.org/organization/com/diversity/index.html))

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Patrick Tomlin, Chair.