



**Art Libraries Society of North America, 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, Banff, Alberta, Canada, May 5-9, 2006**

**Publications Committee Meeting  
Saturday, May 6, 2006, 7:10-8:00**

Chairman Roger Lawson called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Present were:

Jonathan Franklin (outgoing Executive Board liaison)  
Rebecca Price (At-large committee member)  
Eileen Markson (*Art Documentation* Copy Editor)  
Carol Graney (News & Features Editor)  
Kraig Binkowski (Professional Resources Editor)  
Susan Koskinen (incoming Executive Board liaison)

Absent were:

Lee Sorensen (At-large committee member)  
Judy Dyki (Contents Co-Editor, *Art Documentation*)  
Kathy Zimon (Contents Co-Editor, *Art Documentation*)  
Joan Stahl (Reviews Editor, *Art Documentation*)  
Nedda Ahmed (ARLIS/NA Web Site Editor)  
Jennifer Hehman (Bibliographic Notes Editor)  
Paul Glassman (Emeritus Occasional Papers Editor)

Also attending:

Joan Benedetti: Editor of forthcoming "Handbook" for art museum libraries  
Betty Jo Kish Irvine: Editor of forthcoming revision of facilities standards handbook

The meeting began with a report from Joan Benedetti on the status of the "handbook" which she is editing. Joan showed us a copy of a new book entitled *Museum Archives: An Introduction*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, edited by Deborah Wythe (SAA, 2004). She wanted us to look at the format (hardcover, substantial-looking volume, illustrations dispersed throughout, good layout and organization), so that we could consider in what format we would like to see Joan's forthcoming book appear.

Joan also distributed copies of Michael Brand's foreword for her book, just received. So far there is no consensus on a suggested title for the "handbook," although Joan does not want to use the word "handbook" in the title. She asked for our suggestions for a title, which we can contribute to her over the next couple of months.

At this point Joan has a manuscript of ca. 278 pages, which does not include the notes and bibliography, the appendices, and a possible index. Front matter should require ca. 8 pages, and Joan also hopes to include a list of professional resources, contributors' biographies, and thumbnail sketches of libraries.

Roger reported that a contract for this "handbook" has just been signed with Scarecrow Press, but so far nothing about specifications has been decided. Scarecrow will assume the work and costs of design and production. Joan hopes to have the book completed in Fall 2006, possibly for publication in Spring 2007.

B.J. Irvine updated us on plans for a revision of her *Facilities Standards for Art Libraries and Visual Resources Collections* / Art Libraries Society of North America ; Englewood, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 1991. The question was asked as to whether we can be released from any obligation to Libraries Unlimited. B.J. replied that ARLIS/NA holds the copyright on this title, so we legally have a right to publish the new edition. However, out of courtesy, B.J. thinks we should let Libraries Unlimited know that we are planning the new edition.

B.J. will revise everything she was principally responsible for in the first edition, and Erika Dowell will redo the bibliography. The Visual Resources field has changed dramatically due to technological advances. Eileen Fry has agreed to work on this material with a co-worker not yet chosen. B.J. will begin working on the book in Fall 2007, and Erika Dowell is able to begin sooner than that. B.J. said that there is no point in redoing the original survey, because the parameters have not changed, but more current sample reports are needed, which she will do. Rebecca Price agreed to help in this work.

Roger said that we will have to find a publisher for this revised edition; Scarecrow Press may be interested. The book should be in hardcover, since it is of international interest and should look impressive. ARLIS/NA will receive any royalties from sales of the book.

Roger reported on the EBSCO arrangement for the online version of *Art Documentation*. Sixty per cent of the backfile has been scanned, although still missing are some issues from the 90s. Some members at the meeting thought they could supply those. The Fall 2005 issue has already been scanned.

Carol Graney will circulate a report about online publications to the Publications Committee.

One of our goals is the development of functionality in the membership directory database, with more interactivity. For example, members might be able to update their own records. No decisions have been reached yet on how to accomplish this goal.

Jonathan reported to us on four issues sent to the Publications Committee from the pre-conference meeting of the Executive Board. We are asked to:

- 1) Submit initiatives for 2006-07 in line with the strategic plan for the post-conference Board meeting; these are to be transmitted to the Board via Sue Koskinen, incoming Board liaison to the Publications Committee.
- 2) Work with the Professional Development Committee to produce a content development and dissemination plan for the mentoring initiative workshop DVD (Workshop 7, which took place at the Banff conference on Friday, May 5). The contact person is Heidi Hass. This needs to be ready by September 1, 2006, for the mid-year Board meeting.
- 3) Obtain HTML files for previous and present conference Web sites (Los Angeles, Baltimore, New York, Houston, Banff) and move them to the ARLIS/NA Web site by July 1, 2006. This is an archiving issue, although we are not following standard archival practice. The question concerns whether this will be done locally, or to a standard format on the ARLIS/NA Web site.

4) Produce a recommendation, which must be submitted before the post-conference Board meeting, set for Tuesday, May 9, to develop *Art Documentation* Reviews as an online resource and to eliminate redundancy by removing the reviews from the printed *Art Documentation*. The *Art Documentation* Reviews are seen as a collection development tool.

A member of the committee stressed the need to make known (probably via ARLIS-L) that the reviews will be made available in an online format only. *[Editorial note from E. Markson: the same holds true for the list of publications received and subject to later review, which will now appear in an online version only.]*

Under New Business, a discussion about marketing took place. ARLIS/NA could do more along this line, but we have already entered into a co-production arrangement with publishers (EBSCO, Scarecrow Press). Is there a budget for advertising of ARLIS/NA publications? That is a question which should be directed to ARLIS/NA headquarters. The question was also raised as to whether headquarters actively pursues advertising for inclusion in *Art Documentation* and other ARLIS/NA publications. This is an issue for the Executive Board.

In the area of online publications, an "artists' files" project is the most immediate work underway.

The need to obtain a more effective means of searching the ARLIS/NA Web site was emphasized, particularly in light of the desire to move the Art Doc book reviews to online format only. Such search software would also be instrumental in providing access to the artists files project, the membership database, and other features. Kraig Binkowski agreed to write a summary proposal for software to be submitted via the committee's incoming Executive Board Liaison Sue Koskinen to the Executive Board at its post-conference meeting.

It was suggested that we should develop contributors' guidelines for our online publications, a sort of style sheet which should lead to uniformity of style, as we have for the articles in *Art Documentation* and its review section (posted on ARLIS/NA Web site).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Recorder: Eileen Markson  
May 12, 2006