

ARLIS/NA

ART LIBRARIES SOCIETY of NORTH AMERICA

2014: 42nd Annual Conference
Washington, D.C. | May 1-5

Graphic Novels SIG Meeting
May 3, 2014
Submitted by Tara Spies Smith

Introduction and welcome

Tara Spies Smith, SIG Coordinator, welcomed members to the 2nd annual ARLIS/NA Graphic Novels Special Interest Group meeting and outlined the purpose and scope of the group.

Introductions

Attendees introduced themselves, providing name, affiliation, and position or title. Attendees discussed reasons they wanted to come to the meeting and their relevant background.

Twelve meeting attendees total.

Katie Riel (Massachusetts College of Art and Design)

Teri Dowling (California College of the Arts)

Alexis Burson (DePaul University)

Megan Halsband (Library of Congress)

Alexandra Reigle (Smithsonian Libraries)

Lorrie Woods (Baltimore County Public Library)

Jennifer Martinez Wormser (Laguna College of Art & Design)

Leila Prasertwaitaya (Virginia Commonwealth University)

Jessica Spears (Monroe College)

Kathy Cowan (Maryland Institute College of Art)

Marta Chudolinska (OCAD U – Canada)

Tara Spies Smith (Texas State University – San Marcos)

Overview of first meeting in 2013

Tara Spies Smith gave background reasons for wanting to start the SIG including a description of the evolution of the graphic novel collection she started at her institution and the opportunities for it has presented for collection development, collaboration, outreach.

She talked about what was discussed at the first meeting in Pasadena, California at the 41st Annual ARLIS/NA Conference. This included statement of purpose, modes of communication members wished to set up to share information with each other and other members of ARLIS/NA or the world. Members at the first meeting all agreed a blog and listserv would be good for starting conversations and sharing ideas about graphic novels and their collections.

Accomplishments (Annual Report)

Tara Spies Smith shared the 2013 Graphic Novels Annual Report and the Statement of Purpose included in first annual report.

Statement of Purpose: The purpose of the Graphic Novels SIG is to discuss, share and/or present topics including collection development issues, circulation, processing and display of graphic novels, statistics for support of the collection, preservation, conservation, library related instruction and any other issues that come up with this type of collection or other similar collections. Examples of other collections include comics or other types of sequential art and zines.

Spies Smith created a Google blogger blog called the ARLIS/NA Graphic Novels SIG Blog.
<http://arlisgnsig.blogspot.com/>

Alexis Burson of DePaul University made contact with Robert Kopchinski to help the process of starting the listserv. Spies Smith worked with Robert to set up the listserv and test it.
gn_sig@arlisna.org

Discussion of how to contribute to GN SIG blog: <http://arlisgnsig.blogspot.com/>

Google account Arlis Ginseng with password can be used for members to access Google Drive that is used to store, share, and edit documents that would not go on a public website.

Spies Smith said she would share password and account information with members via listserv after meeting minutes were sent out for approval. Members can use Arlis Ginseng Google account to post to blog but it is better to use personal Gmail account to post. Spies Smith said she can add anyone who wants to post to the blog as a contributor.

Members agreed a list of publishers and a list of comics festivals/expos would be a good addition to the blog too. Spies Smith said she add these as “gadgets” to the right hand navigation.

Members all agreed that guests (non-members) can post via a member.

Discuss comics/graphic novelists presenters/events or possible ideas for events that we could host at our own institutions or for ARLIS/NA 2015 Conference in Ft. Worth, TX

Members agreed we would share ideas for presenters, visiting artists/novelists for programming at our own institution. Spies Smith said she would put the word out for guest presenters to come and speak at the next Graphic Novel SIG in Ft. Worth but wants to focus on proposing a session for next year’s conference in Ft. Worth with Graphic Novels SIG members.

Discuss proposals for a session, possibly made up of 4 or 5 smaller presentations, at the ARLIS/NA 2015 Conference in Ft. Worth, TX

Session ideas from different pairs of members included these topics which could be 15-20 minute presentations from 3 pairs of members with time for questions. This would fit the 90 minute session format but in a slightly different configuration:

- Teaching with comics
- How to reach a younger audience and how to sell it to parents
- Graphic novel collections and the opportunities they present for collection development, collaboration, and outreach. (Tara Spies Smith would like to present about the creation of her graphic novel collection at Texas State University and the types of opportunities listed that it has presented. Megan Halsband would like to present about the SPX collection at the LOC and the small press expo and these types of opportunities listed above that it has presented.)