

ARLIS/ANZ AGM September 28 2011

President's Report

and

Victorian Chapter Report

In January 2010 Joye Volker and Vicki Marsh travelled to Melbourne to handover documents to the newly elected executive in Melbourne – Judy Nolan (President), Paul Reynolds (Treasurer) and George Leighfield (Secretary). James Harris also attended the meeting in the capacity of web administrator, however, James has relocated to Queensland and is no longer involved in art librarianship, but John Stevens from SLV will continue in this role.

Since January our main focus has been on revamping the website and the problems associated with the discussion list after it was transferred from ANU to a Monash University server. John Stevens has set up a Google Group to replace the discussion list and once the decision is made to use the Group members will be asked to sign up. This will be an opportunity to clean up the list as there are many failed delivery addresses at present. There is an issue with attachments which will need to be resolved particularly in regards to duplicates lists from the NGA.

The Arlis/ANZ domain name has been renewed by QUT for another 2 years.

H. W. Wilson sent a contract to sign for the indexing of the Arlis/ANZ journal but because the licensor was named as Vicki Marsh I asked them to update the contract with my name. A replacement hasn't been sent back.

In August I travelled to San Juan Puerto Rico for the 2011 IFLA Conference and subsequent Art Libraries Section satellite meeting in Mexico City.

Earlier in the year Joye Volker had nominated me for a position on the IFLA Art Libraries Section Standing Committee. Unfortunately I was not elected (not surprising as I was a complete stranger to the voting members). However I was invited to observe the Standing Committee meetings in Puerto Rico and begin to become acquainted with the members and the activities of the Committee. This I did and felt extremely privileged to be sitting around the table with librarians from wonderful art museums from around the world. Margaret Shaw from the Portrait Gallery in Canberra also attended and was a generous mentor to me and together we "flew the Australian flag"

The theme of the Art Libraries Section's presentation was "Tackling the challenges of multilingualism in the arts: catalogues, databases, digital collections and other material in the global context".

There were 4 very interesting presentations – Martin Flynn (V&A Museum London) – looked at online translation services; Jan Simane (Kunsthistorisches Institute, Florence) – presented a project on image searching using the elements of an image rather than text; and one from National Library of France – multilingual name authorities and one from the National Taiwan University.

Mexico City was wonderful. We were joined by members from ARLIS/NA as well as the Art section of AMBAC (Mexican Library Association) and enjoyed a packed program in the beautiful Franz Mayer museum. A major theme running through the papers was visual literacy and the organization and retrieval of images.

The Victorian Chapter has continued to meet - in November 2010 Helen Boyd from the Australian Design Academy hosted a meeting followed by a tour of the exhibition "Zeitgeist Becomes Form: German Fashion Photography 1945-1995" in the Clement Meadmore Gallery.

In May this year we explored the new MUMA gallery at Monash University, Caulfield.

We have also held a couple of meetings to plan for the 2012 conference. This will be held at The NGV on 6 – 8 Sept 2012. The theme will be developed around the idea of art libraries as resources for research for both practicing artists and scholars - "Artists, scholars and art libraries: a collaboration" has been decided upon. A call for papers will go out shortly.

Members who travelled overseas to art conferences this year include John Stevens who attended ALA in New Orleans and Georgina Binns was a delegate at the IAML/UK& Ireland conference in Dublin.

Judy Nolan

22/9/11