The Delaware Valley Chapter of ARLIS/NA met twice in 2005 to hold spring and fall meetings. The spring meeting took place at Glencairn Museum in Bryn Athyn, PA. During the business meeting and after the approval of the previous meeting minutes there was a report of the Outreach Committee. Each spring, Drexel University in Philadelphia holds a “Rush on Rush” professional association event at the School of Information Studies. As part of outreach, regular and student members of ARLIS/DVC attend this event to attract students to the field of Art Librarianship. One of them attended the meeting at Glencairn as a result of this outreach. Due to a relocation of one of the Outreach Committee members, Kraig Binkowski, to Yale University, the Executive Board will be appointing a new member to represent ARLIS/DVC for the Spring 2006 “Rush on Rush” event. Due to space limitations at Drexel, representatives of ARLIS/DVC are kept to a minimum, usually 3-5 members attend.

After the business meeting concluded three members gave presentations on their institutional practice in Collection Development. Ann Keith Kennedy of Drexel University spoke in her capacity as Media Arts & Design Librarian. One of her highlights regarded the required approval for acquiring hard copy journals. She noted Drexel is moving as much as possible towards electronic journals only. Karen Hutchison, Library Director of the Pennsylvania College of Art and Design reported on her challenge of meeting accreditation requirements and found that though they are limited in their resources, proportionately, their subject allocation is in line with like institutions. Mary Wassermann, Librarian for Collection Development for the Philadelphia Museum of Art provided a quick history of the Library and its collecting practices, which include a museum exchange program. She stated that though the exchange program has dwindled, the Museum now relies on items acquired through endowed funds or gifts. She also mentioned the need for interlibrary loan to supplement research practices at the Museum, but hopes the funding for acquisitions will increase even more as it has this past year through the Museum’s development program.

These brief presentations were followed by a tour of the Glencairn Museum. An institution that began as a family home, Glencairn serves as the headquarters of the New Church (Swedenborgian), and houses a wide range of artifacts including religious artifacts from ancient to near East, Greece, Rome, and other cultures. They are arranged in such a way to educate visitors in these areas of art history.

Our fall meeting took place December 2 at the Free Library of Philadelphia. The business meeting covered election of new officers. Ann Keith Kennedy, of Drexel University became the new Vice-President/President Elect. Cate Cooney, now Past-President filled the vacancy left by Kraig Binkowski. Ed Deegan was reelected as Secretary-Treasurer. In light of the ARLIS/NA conference in Banff, Canada, the Chapter’s travel award was unanimously approved to be given as two awards in order to assist more members’ travel to Banff.

Following, there was discussion of improving the Chapter web site. The host institution is currently Temple University, in Philadelphia, and the site is maintained by Andrea Goldstein http://astro.ocis.temple.edu/~andrea/. She mentioned the probability of
improvements during the holiday break. In addition to web-related issues, Carol Graney, the ARLIS/NA Web site News and Features Editor mentioned the Event Calendar and other possibilities for an ARLIS/DVC presence on the ARLIS/NA main site. It was suggested that the Past-President, whose duties according to current ARLIS/DVC By-laws include producing an annual newsletter, follow up on posting news.

A message from the ARLIS/NA Northeast Regional Representative, Carole Ann Fabian was read. This included the ARLIS/NA Strategic Plan, Core Competencies for Art Information Professionals, and the Banff Conference. Web site information was also made available to the members for these items.

Post meeting, the attendees met in the Print and Picture Collection of the Free Library of Philadelphia. The presentation given by Deborah Litwack, Art Librarian, covered views of the Philadelphia Museum of Art as well as other aerial photographs of Philadelphia. Members had the opportunity to view other images until the Library closed for the day.

An optional free evening event at the Philadelphia Museum of Art followed, arranged by Lilah J. Mittelstaedt, Reference Librarian. “Art After 5” is a weekly event where jazz music and food accompany the evening. Some members attended a Beauford Delaney lecture and viewed the Jacob van Ruisdael special exhibition in addition to visiting other open galleries.

Respectfully submitted by
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February 2, 2006