2007 Annual Report ARLIS/NA Ontario Chapter

www.arlison.org

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Executive 2008
Chair:………….. Lesley Bell  lbell@brocku
Vice Chair.......Margaret English  margaret.english@utoront.ca
Secretary:…….. Randall Speller  randall_speller@ago.net
Finance.........Tammy Moorse  tmoorse@gmail.ca
Past Chair……..Janet Muise  janet_muise@cbc.ca
Student Rep…….Kalan Greenwood  k.greenwood@utoronto.ca

Webmasters: Janet Muise, Lynda Barnett
Newsletter: Daniel Payne
Membership: Tammy Moorse, Daniel Payne, Kalan Greenwood
Editor for web & newsletter: to be elected

Report

Meetings

Executive
The Ontario executive met 3 times throughout the year (January, April and June) with the usual discussions around preparations for biannual meetings, elections, fundraising and travel awards although discussions about waivers, insurance entered more often than usual.

Spring
For the spring meeting, 15 of our members were drawn to the Wayzgoose festival of book arts that is held in Grimsby, a small town in the Niagara Peninsula that has been fairly active in the arts over the past 30 years. We learned about the role of a public gallery in a smaller centre from Rhona Wenger director of the Grimsby Public Art Gallery, where the work of Marian Rheims was on exhibit as part of the festival. Local artist Carolyn Dover invited us to her studio overlooking the Niagara escarpment where we later enjoyed a walk and finally a dinner overlooking the local vineyards. Our spring newsletter is available on our website.

Fall
The fall meeting took us back to southern Ontario once again to the larger centre of Hamilton, where Donna Thomson, the Metadata/Liaison Librarian at McMaster University Mills Memorial Library, hosted us. It included a tour of the McMaster University Art Museum and the Bertrand Russell Archives that houses the largest archive of Russell-related materials. Canadian Rep Marilyn Nasserden was our guest and it was great to have her reporting to us directly. 19 of our members attended.

Activities

Committees
A couple of committees were fairly active over the year and in particular the Membership Committee. Our student rep, Kalan Greenwood followed through on plans for student outreach at UofT’s FIS www.fis.utoronto.ca by creating an information board, and worked with the committee
and executive to create a colourful ARLIS/NA Ontario information brochure and bookmark that will be also be used throughout the year. Our chapter did apply for the Chapter funding for this project although it was not approved. 14 students signed up to receive emails and 2 new students have joined and are proving to be true assets to our chapter. There are plans to do the same at the University of Western Faculty of Information Management Studies www.fims.uwo.ca in London Ontario in the fall of 2008.

Another student member, Heather Saunders stepped forward to look into the archiving of chapter materials and presented her first report at the June 2007 executive meeting.

**Gatherings**

Food and fundraising were the main events at our Mid-Winter Gathering that took place in February replacing our Christmas gathering. A birthday was celebrated and the range of members attending included new graduates, and a long time member and retiree.

A spring initiative to further our outreach to new members included a visit to the Guelph University during the Shakespeare Made in Canada Festival www.canadianshakespeares.ca/about.cfm where we touched base with past members, members of VRA and the archivists and professors involved in the festival. Learn more about that visit on the ARLIS/NA Ontario website.

**Issues**

**Insurance/Waivers**

As chair I was occupied in finding information and options for our chapter in regards to risk management. There is an option to join a volunteer organization and receive discounted insurance. We received free consultation from a lawyer, who noted that our membership form and website content were 2 areas that could be reviewed. We were given a quote that is beyond affordability and so I applied for financial support through the Volunteer Legal Service. We have yet to hear their response to our request. A final consultation with at least 3 members should take place and a final presentation to the membership should enable an informed vote on this issue. At the very least we need to inform our executive of best practices.

**NA Issue *Student memberships**

Because of the school term it was suggested that an 18 month membership be available to students. It was proposed that an 18-month student membership with ARLIS/NA also be explored.

The reasoning and benefits:

- most student members will want to want to become members in September, when school starts and it is unfair to expect them to pay dues again in January.
- this will be attractive to students as they will make the most of their membership time

This should be explored before the next chapter executive meeting. In the meantime we have 2 new and active student members.

**Committees**

In order to make the work of the committees more manageable it was decided to create a separate fundraising committee aside from the membership committee.

It was also agreed to engage an editor who will compile material from members for both the bi-annual newsletter and the website and forward that material to the publisher and the web administrator. Although this is not an executive position it will require reports to the executive.

**Award**

Michele Laing, our 2006 Chair, was awarded the 750.00 travel award to attend the Atlanta Conference. It was here that a number of members of the Ontario and the Western New York members discussed the idea of proposing a conference.
Proposals
Last but not least our members voted to send an invitation to the ARLIS/NA Board proposing that ARLIS/NA Ontario host the 2012 NA Conference in conjunction with ARLIS/NA Western New York. With Toronto’s architectural and cultural renaissance taking place over the next few years we hope to provide a rich and engaging setting for our members.
A vote was taken by email with a core group offering significant personal and institutional support. The final results were:

- 27 members responded
- 25 voted in favour of the conference,
- 2 opted to abstain


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<td>Total Income: including membership,</td>
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Fundraising Plans
Plans for our 2008 Mid-Winter Gathering and Fundraiser in February began at our Fall 2007 meeting when chapter member Daina Leja of HOK, an international architectural firm, invited us to visit their materials library and tour their new Canadian headquarters where they have integrated sustainable design principles into the building.
To further our outreach goals and expand our fundraising capabilities, we have opened the gathering to art and design colleagues and staff from a number of our major art and educational institutions.

Submitted by:

Janet Muise,
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