2011-2012 Gerd Muehsam Award Committee:
Virginia Allison, Philip Dombowsky, Elizabeth Ehrnst, Erin Elliott (Chair), Jon Evans (Board Liaison), Jennifer Mayer, Alan Michelson

Activities over the past year (April 2011-March 2012):

Minneapolis Conference, April 23-26, 2011:
The following committee members attended a Gerd Muehsam Award (GMA) committee meeting at the Minneapolis conference: Erin Elliott (Chair), Christina Peter, Philip Dombowsky, Alan Michelson and Shalimar White. The meeting started with thanks and appreciation to outgoing committee members Shalimar White and Heather Saunders. Topics of discussion at this meeting included the voting system, the need for an effective means of distributing award submissions among the committee members, and the year’s calendar of activities.

June, 2011:
The committee email lists for program directors and for faculty were updated.

Late July–Early August, 2011:
Award announcement and solicitation of papers was sent by email to program directors and one week later sent to faculty. Email lists were updated based on bounce-backs and responses. Award information updated on the ARLIS/NA website.

Late August, 2011:
Award announcement and solicitation of papers was posted on ARLIS-L.

Late September, 2011:
Reminder announcements were sent out to both email lists. A reminder announcement was also posted on ARLIS-L.

November, 2011:
11 submissions were received in total by the Nov. 18 deadline.

Early-December, 2011:
In early-December, an Adobe site was created as the means to present the paper submissions to the judges as Google Groups no longer supports document sharing. The submissions were posted Dec. 4. Committee members were requested to fill out a separate ballot for each submission and to have their ballots returned to the Chair by January 20, 2012.
Early-February, 2012:
Elliott tallied the votes. The winner of the 2012 Gerd Muehsam Award was Katrina Windon, a student at the University of Texas, Austin School of Information. Katrina was immediately notified that her paper “The Right to Decay with Dignity: Documentation and the Negotiation between an Artist’s Sanction and the Cultural Interest” had been chosen as the GMA recipient. Shortly after the committee members, the other applicants, headquarters, the President and the Chair of the Awards Committee were all notified of the outcome. Katrina was also provided with contact information for (1) Judy Dyki of Art Documentation to apply for the possible publication of her paper and (2) Maggie Portis regarding participating in the New Voices session at the annual ARLIS/NA conference in Toronto.

Mid-March, 2012:
Elliott sent a reminder to committee members to properly dispose of submissions, thanked committee members who were finishing their terms, made arrangements for new members to join the committee, found a new committee chair, developed an agenda for the committee’s meeting on March 31, 2012, and arranged for a meeting space for the committee at the Toronto conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Elliott
Chair (2011-2012), Gerd Muehsam Award Committee

Cc:
Jon Evans (Board Liaison)
Jennifer Parker (Chair, Awards Committee)
Chris Roper (ARLIS/NA HQ)