Annual Report 2012
NW Chapter

Submitted by: Dan McClure
dmclure@pnca.edu
503-821-8970

The NW Chapter held a meeting on October 19 and 20 in Portland, Oregon. The business portion of our annual meeting took place at Reed College on October 19.

Leadership Update
2013 Chapter Executive Committee named:
Chair: Dan McClure, Director of Library, Pacific Northwest College of Art
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Suzanne Rackover, The Banff Centre Library
Secretary: Susan Gilman, Librarian, subsequently resigned post due to relocation; we are in search of a new Secretary
Treasurer: Marilyn Nasserden, Librarian, University of Calgary

Budget
Summary: We opened the fiscal year on Nov. 1, 2011 with $4,783.84 and closed on October 31, 2011 with a balance of $4,837.04 – an increase of $53.20. We had 21 members/affiliates in 2011 (18 members and 3 affiliates). We had nine fewer members this year (many were students) and a decrease in income as a result. No funds were required for Chapter Travel Award as it was a virtual meeting. (All funds are recorded here in US dollars.)

Three motions related to Chapter budget were put forward during our Chapter Meeting:
Increase donation to support ARLIS/NA conference to $150. (approved)
Increase funding for Chapter-sponsored Travel Awards:
  Chapter Meeting Travel Award increase to $200. (approved)
  ARLIS/NA Conference Travel Award increase to $500. (approved)

Expenses:
$500. ARLIS/NA Conference Travel Award (Dan McClure)
$150. Support for the ARLIS/NA 2011 conference in Toronto

In 2012, the Chapter awarded one $500 Travel Award to attend the annual ARLIS/NA conference in Toronto in March 2012; the recipient was Dan McClure. The NW Chapter has awarded the Travel Award for 2013 to attend the Annual Conference in Pasadena to Helen Harris, who joined our Chapter in 2012. Helen is a recent graduate of Emporia State University’s distance program in Portland and a volunteer at the Portland Art Museum and Lewis & Clark College.

Outgoing Chair’s Report by Angela Weaver
Angela’s report focused on two significant items:
  • The proposal to co-host a national joint ARLIS/NA-VRA conference by the Northwest Chapter of ARLIS and the Pacific Rim Chapter of VRA.
  • The proposal by Marilyn Nasserden of hosting a 2013 Northwest Chapter meeting at
University of Calgary in collaboration with Suzanne Rackover at The Banff Center.

Regarding a national conference in the Northwest: It was strongly suggested by the ARLIS Board that it is the Northwest Chapter’s “turn” to host a national conference. The two most probable locations are Seattle and Portland with some preference for Seattle due to direct flights in/out and proximity to the Canadian border. The opportunity of co-hosting with the VRA Pacific Rim Chapter is exciting because it is a large and very active chapter with lots of talented people. Several members of ARLIS are members of that organization as well.

Several attendees expressed concern that we do not have the cohesion or determination as a group to do a national conference. Vanessa Kam (Skyping from Vancouver, BC) was especially forthright in expressing concern and questions the Northwest Chapter’s ability to gather enough energy to pull off such a huge task. Alan Michelson (outgoing Secretary for ARLIS/NA) suggested that recent co-hosted events between the two organizations have ironed out some of the kinks in the conference planning process which makes it more possible. All around, members expressed a need for leadership: it will take a dedicated team of 4-6 leaders to gather enough steam to get committees in place and on task for a successful Northwest conference. A letter of commitment is required which would come from both the ARLIS Northwest Chapter and The VRA Pacific Rim Chapter.

Motion: In favor of further exploration of joint co-chair between ARLIS-NW and VRA Pacific Rim Chapters for a joint national conference (affirmed).
Action: As a result of the motion, our group has submitted a formal proposal to host a joint conference in Seattle in 2016.

The second item concerns the location of our 2013 Chapter meeting. Marilyn Nasserden has graciously offered to host at the University of Calgary in collaboration with Suzanne Rackover at The Banff Center Library in Alberta, Canada. There was considerable discussion pro/con about the location but since we had only one attendee from Canada, it was determined that more information was needed.
Action: As a result of a Chapter poll, we are now planning for our next annual meeting in Alberta.

**Notes from Incoming Chair Dan McClure**
In the months since our annual meeting, our Chapter, in cooperation with the Pacific Rim Chapter of the Visual Resources Association, proposed a joint conference in Seattle for 2016. The commitment and fine work so far by Alan Michelson, Joshua Polansky and the rest of the team is certainly noteworthy. We are certainly hoping that this conference with the theme of Natural Connections comes to fruition.

As noted in Angela Weaver’s report, we’re now planning our 2013 Chapter meeting in Banff. Our Chair Elect Suzanne Rackover is leading the effort to organize this meeting. We are excited to convene in this scenic location, and are hoping we can stimulate additional membership in Canada. Meanwhile we are starting to focus on the drive to attract new members and re-engage past members.

In the midst of these activities we are experiencing a shift in leadership; we’re excited to have the new energy and ideas from Suzanne Rackover, but disappointed that Susan Gilman relocated and couldn’t continue as Secretary. We are now recruiting for this important position. All three of these topics will be on our agenda for our Chapter Meeting in Pasadena.