Annual Report 2019-20

Advancement Liaison

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Responsibilities:
The Advancement Liaison acts as a liaison between the Executive Board and the Membership Committee, Development Committee, and Diversity Committee.

Leadership Update:
- Development Committee:
  - Continuing Chair, Gregory P.J. Most
- Diversity Committee:
  - Outgoing Chair, Amanda Meeks
  - Incoming Chair, Natisha Harper
- Membership Committee:
  - Outgoing Chair, Laurel Bliss
  - Incoming Chair, Beth Owens
  - Task Force on Paraprofessional Membership Chair, David Platt

Meetings Attended:
- Attended membership meeting, Leadership Institute, and pre- and post-conference Executive Board meetings in Salt Lake City (April 2019)
- Attended meetings for Development, Diversity, and Membership Committees in Salt Lake City (April 2019)
- Attended monthly online Executive Board meetings throughout the year
- Attended online meetings for Development, Diversity, and Membership Committees throughout the year
- Attended Executive Board midyear meeting in La Jolla, CA (September 2019)
- Attended additional online and phone meetings to discuss topics such as possibilities for a diversity grant, the 50th Anniversary Planning Task Force, cancellation of the St. Louis conference, and management company
- Presented in the PDC Education Subcommittee’s January 2020 webinar, “Ready Yourself for Job Search and Advancement in the Art Library”

Activities during the past year:
- Development Committee:
  - The Development Committee is now coordinating conference fundraising as well as general ARLIS/NA fundraising, and over the past year, Gregory P.J. Most worked closely with Amelia Nelson, local development coordinator for the St. Louis conference. Fundraising for St. Louis was healthy before the conference itself had to be cancelled.
The Kress Foundation funded international travel grants and the Digital Art History Database, and the Delmas Foundation funded parts of the Venice Study Tour.

The committee designed new Society Circle pins and revised the language on the ARLIS/NA website related to Society Circle.

The committee is planning ahead for the Montreal conference, a fundraising initiative around the 50th anniversary of ARLIS/NA, and also considering the ramifications of the cancellation of the St. Louis conference. A Conference Recovery Fund was quickly established for those ARLIS/NA members able to donate some or all of their refunded registration fees back to the Society.

The project and service charter for The Keystone legacy giving program was approved by the Executive Board in April 2020, to be announced at the April 22 online Membership Meeting.

- Diversity Committee:
  - The Diversity Committee created a virtual Code of Conduct training for the Salt Lake City conference moderators; it was recorded and set to be reused for the St. Louis conference.
  - Over 300 conference attendees joined in for the first plenary-session Diversity Forum at the Salt Lake City conference.
  - The committee met in Salt Lake City to do a visioning exercise, and then worked to develop a new mission statement, charge, and goals.
  - Revised Committee Charge: The ARLIS/NA Diversity Committee provides leadership within the society by reflecting on and enacting the core values of diversity and inclusion across all aspects of art librarianship. We offer the society guidance in welcoming and centering historically marginalized people, voices, and narratives through the lens of equity and justice. The committee creates and provides educational opportunities and resources related to equity, diversity, inclusion, and justice. Through building collaborative partnerships with the ARLIS/NA Executive Board, Committees, Sections, and SIGs, we work to foster anti-oppressive professional practices and identify ways ARLIS/NA can divest from white supremacy, colonialism, and all other forms of systemic oppression.
  - The committee plans to develop additional EDIJ webinars and training for ARLIS/NA members.
  - For the St. Louis conference, the committee planned a Diversity Forum around issues of accessibility and disability justice. The committee hopes to postpone this forum to the Montreal conference, pending availability of the two scheduled speakers.

- Membership Committee:
  - The Membership Committee sponsored and staffed an icebreaker activity at the First-Time Attendees and New Members reception in Salt Lake City, and had planned a similar event for St. Louis.
  - The Membership Committee completed its work toward offering bundled membership for the 2020 renewal cycle.
  - Revised text of renewal letters sent out by AEG.
  - The committee invited and edited “What Our Members Are Saying” and “Featured Art Library” posts, some of which were posted on the ARLIS/NA website, with others still in process.
  - The Membership Committee formed and charged a Task Force on Paraprofessional and Support Staff Membership to explore ways of making ARLIS/NA membership and conference attendance more appealing for people working in paraprofessional positions, and to investigate whether they would value a paraprofessional membership category. The project and service
charter was approved in April 2019 and the task force submitted its report in January 2020, including an environmental scan, literature review, and survey of paraprofessional art library staff members. The Executive Board is considering actions based on the report’s findings and recommendations.

**Ongoing projects:**

- The 50th Anniversary Planning Task Force, for which I submitted a Project and Service Charter with Amy Trendler, will convene after a member-at-large is selected, with me as chair until the Montreal conference.
- Plans for further action on recommendations of Task Force on Paraprofessional and Support Staff Membership.
- Discussions of ways for ARLIS/NA to implement recommendations of Diversity Planning Grant Task Force for recruitment and retention of diverse candidates into art librarianship positions.
- New implementation of development database for Development Committee and Local Development Coordinator access to donors and sponsors.
- Access to membership data.
- Assessing effects of bundled membership rollout in fall 2019.