ARLIS/NA Group or Appointment: Strategic Directions Committee

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• Leadership Update (incoming officers names and roles): Emilee Mathews will continue in the chair position until she rotates off in 2021

• Membership (current and incoming members):

  Current:

  Sarah Osborne Bender (rotating off 2020)
  Kim Collins, EB liaison (rotating off 2020)
  Cathryn Copper
  Kate Joranson (rotating off 2020)
  Lori Salmon
  Andrew Wang

  Incoming Members:

  Jamie Lausch Vander Broek
  Dan Lipcan
  Laura Schwartz, EB Liaison
  Karina Wretchko

• Activities during the past year:
The Strategic Directions Committee (SDC) continued to work with the visioning documents created in 2018/2019, the 2018 Resilient Strategies and the 2018 Environmental Scan, both delivered to the Executive Board (EB) for their midyear meeting in August, 2018. The SDC outgoing and incoming chairs had a meeting with ARLIS/NA vice, current, and past Presidents to determine next steps on 1/4/2019. 2019/2020 mandates were as follows:

- Implement recommendations identified and prioritized by EB derived from above documents
  - Make progress on low-hanging fruit but don’t lose sight of the Resilient Strategies
  - Communicate and create grassroots opportunities for membership to be involved

In response, the SDC developed the following goals:

1. Develop, test, and evaluate implementation plan for tackling goals and initiatives from the Prioritized list
   1. Focus on making progress on Low-Hanging Fruit goals
   2. Test implementation plan on the #1 priority Resilient goal, “Reaching out and expanding underrepresented groups”

2. Communicate goals and jumpstart connections among ARLIS/NA groups and general membership
   1. Share Prioritized list to ARLIS leaders and ask them to comment, indicate where they are interested in working on, or are already working on something similar
   2. Share this document with ARLIS general membership, as a way to help communicate what groups are doing, and to gather feedback on what they are interested in

Progress on Goal 1: Develop, test, and evaluate implementation plan for tackling goals and initiatives from the Prioritized list

- Adjusted workflows and activities to accommodate new implementation role rather than visioning role. This included determining how the SDC would communicate across groups, what strategies the SDC would take in implementing goals, and determining best courses of action.
- Made progress on implementation
  - Resilient Strategies: Out of the six resilient strategies, one has been tabled, one has been implemented, and four are in progress.
  - In the Environmental Scan, eleven goals were identified as a priority by Executive Board:
Progress on Goal 2: Communicate goals and jumpstart connections among ARLIS/NA groups and general membership

The SDC determined through research as well as experience in ARLIS/NA that the society needed to increase its grassroots and transparency. In response, the SDC were able to propose and successfully implement the following goals:

- Increase visibility of grassroots success stories. Proposed and successfully implemented VP quarterly message highlighting SIGs, sections, divisions, and other groups across ARLIS/NA
- October, 2019: Coordinated messaging across the various committees looking for new members to more explicitly share information about what the committees do
- November, 2019: asked ARLIS/NA leaders for input and brainstorming on the 2018 Resilient Strategies and Environmental Scan
- November-December, 2019: Analyzed results from leadership input; prioritized, developed strategies, and gained EB approval for next steps
- January, 2020: proposed changes to Leadership onboarding; many were implemented in 2020 leadership webinar, and more envisioned for 2021 webinar
- December, 2019-March, 2020: Developed townhall to be accomplished at St. Louis conference to increase transparency and solicit feedback from membership. Now scheduled for June 2020.
- December, 2019-March, 2020: Developed talking points for EB meeting to discuss SDC’s scope and role

Additionally, the EB worked on updating the Policy Manual and By-Laws for the society, and asked SDC to work on updates. The SDC contributed language to update sections specific to the group; some language was
determined to need further discussion with the EB, and has been tabled until a discussion can take place.

- **Ongoing projects:**

Due to the cancellation of the 2020 ARLIS/NA conference, several projects and initiatives are still being worked on. Those include the following:
  - Convening the Town Hall (estimated time frame: June, 2020)
  - Sharing results of leadership input on 2018 Resilient Strategies and Environmental Scan (estimated time frame: July, 2020)
  - Meeting with the EB (estimated time frame: August, 2020)

- **Preliminary goals** for next year:

During the 2020/2021 year, we will focus on inclusion-related activities using the goal framework and committee scope and role that the SDC developed last year.

- **Articulate how your activities, projects and goals relate to the ARLIS/NA Strategic Directions:**

The SDC’s role in Strategic Directions is to ensure that high impact goals are implemented across the Directions. Some specific instances include:

  **Leadership and Advocacy**
  - Advised on increasing efficacy of leadership onboarding
  - Recommended leadership institute topic
  - Increased communication among committee chairs
  - Shared recommendations on advocacy with APPC

  **Organizational Advancement**
  - Provided recommendations for increasing grassroots efforts and transparency
  - Provided recommendations for increased development and grants opportunities
  - Implemented greater emphasis on strategic planning and thinking through townhall

  **Art Information Professionals:**
  - Advocated for skills building for ARLIS/NA members through service and programs
Diversity and Inclusion

- Paraprofessionals task force was implemented through SDC’s recommendation

- **Other** (please share anything else you want the membership to know about your group or your role):

Communication continues to be the most challenging issue that impedes SDC’s ability to do the work of monitoring overall society progress.