ARLIS/NA Group or Appointment: Web Archiving Special Interest Group (SIG)

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Leadership:
The Web Archiving Special Interest Group (SIG) was co-coordinated in 2019 by Sumitra Duncan (Head, Web Archiving Program, Frick Art Reference Library) and Andrea Puccio (Collections Management Librarian, Clark Art Institute Library). Leadership for the SIG will remain the same in 2020.

Membership:
The ARLIS/NA Web Archiving SIG was founded in 2016 with the mission to steward the community of art librarians currently engaged or interested in web archiving. It monitors and reports on trends, standards, and services in order to facilitate resource sharing and the technical development of web archiving tools of especial value to art libraries and museums. Topics of interest to this group include best practices for collection development, preservation, and access; software services; collaborative collecting; and the applications of web archiving as a strategy for managing ephemeral resources and institutional records. As of mid-February 2020, the Web Archiving SIG has 78 active members and maintains communication through our website and Google discussion group (www.artwarc.org).

Activities/Ongoing projects/Goals:
The Web Archiving SIG met at the 2019 ARLIS/NA Annual Meeting on Friday, March 29th. Members heard from several speakers: Andrea Puccio provided a recap of the Ethics & Archiving the Web Symposium (held in March 2018 at the New Museum), Sumitra Duncan provided an update on the Advancing Art Libraries and Curated Web Archives project being conducted by the Internet Archive and the New York Art Resources Consortium (NYARC) via IMLS-grant support, and Amye McCarther spoke about the web archiving initiatives of the Archives department at the New Museum.
The *Advancing Art Libraries and Curated Web Archives* project continued activities and meetings of the grant following the February 2019 National Forum meeting at SFMOMA (attended by many Web Archiving SIG members and co-lead by SIG members Sumitra Duncan and Deborah Kempe, in partnership with the Internet Archive). In April 2019, the grant project team held a follow-up stakeholder’s meeting at the Frick Art Reference Library to further discuss subject-based collection priorities for developing collaborative web archive collections. This meeting was summarized in two webinars conducted by Sumitra Duncan and Karl-Rainer Blumenthal in May 2019. A second stakeholder’s meeting was held with a smaller cross-section of the membership in March 2020 at the Getty Research Institute. Reports and webinar recordings from these meetings have been made available via the ARLIS/NA Learning Portal and the Archive-It blog ([https://archive-it.org/blog/learn-more/art-libraries/](https://archive-it.org/blog/learn-more/art-libraries/)).

On April 23rd, 2020, the Web Archiving SIG will meet virtually, in lieu of meeting in person at the 2020 ARLIS/NA Annual Conference in St. Louis, and participants will hear an update on the IMLS grant activities to date and learn of a detailed plan for advancing the collaborative web archiving activities of art libraries. Internet Archive staff/project team members Jefferson Bailey, Lori Donovan, and Karl-Rainer Blumenthal, and NYARC staff/project team members Sumitra Duncan and Deborah Kempe will provide grant-related updates during the meeting and then discuss how SIG members (and the ARLIS/NA membership at large) can take the next steps to actively participate in this initiative.

**Strategic Directions**

The Web Archiving SIG directly contributes to two of ARLIS/NA’s stated Strategic Directions. The first, Organizational Advancement, through our continued engagement with a variety of outside organizations and representing the Society’s interests while participating in cross-disciplinary events. And the second, Innovation and Technology, by ensuring our members are not only informed of new developments in this rapidly changing field, but by positioning ourselves as knowledgeable practitioners involved in important decision-making and testing of new initiatives.