Session/Meeting Name: Visual Resources Division
Date, Time: April 18, 2009, 12:30-2:00pm

Moderators: Eileen Fry & Nicole Finzer
Recorder: Nicole Beatty

Present: Eileen Fry, Susan Jane Williams, Kathy Evans, Sherman Clarke, Barbara Furbush, Elaine Paul, Trudy Jacoby, Nicole Finzer, Mary Ann Dyer, Camilla Mackay, Susan Chute, Rebecca Mayne, Margaret Webster, Jolene de Verges, Megan Macken, Gary Ginther, Jessie Double, Rebecca Moss, Maryly Snow, Leigh Gates, Susan Passman, Betsy Peck Learned, Elizabeth Schaub, Nicole Beatty, Liz Ehrnst, Gregory Most, Elizabeth Dorocha Berenz.
Eileen Fry, Co-Vice Moderator, brought the meeting to order.

We began with volunteers for the Co-Vice Moderator position.
  Nicole Finzer volunteered.

A blog was developed after last year’s VRD meeting.
  Purpose was to have substantive discussions that bridge ARLIS-L, VRA-L, and other groups, as well as allow for those who are not members to participate.
  Concern was raised over the usefulness of the blog.
  It was determined that a Wiki might be better.
  Does VRD need permission from the ARLIS Board to have a wiki?
  Who will host the wiki?
  There is a need for all the VR resources to be pulled together such as member’s blogs, websites, etc...

VRD Website:
  The VRD has an existing website where the link to the resources and the VRD Wiki could be posted. Rebecca Moss volunteered to try to find out where the VRD website is now and if it is viable.
  Could this help make VRD more visible in ARLIS/NA?
  Could VRD have a dashboard on their website with current topics?
  What about an electronic commons that has links, bibliographic information, and joint distance learning awareness.
  Make content interesting to ARLIS/NA administrators as well as the members.

Bridging Information between organizations:
  Should there be a VRD committee or task force to do this, one that is recognized by the Board?
  Could the liaisons for the various groups take care of sending relevant information to the VRD?
  ARLIS/NA could benefit from VR librarian’s pedagogical expertise.
  Sponsored division sessions are coming back to conference which could help with both VRD’s visibility and the bridging of VRA and ARLIS/NA.

Future of Visual Resources Libraries:
Should we be lobbying for content that addresses the future?
Maybe there should be a panel at ARLIS addressing the future of VR?
We should develop CCO and Core 4 Training.
We should look at collaborative cataloging
Try to get library administrators to understand that Image metadata is important for digitization projects.
Educate students on issues involved in image metadata, digitization, the devaluing of analog collections, and the changes (for better or worse) in the profession. Teach image metadata classes in library school.
Make people see us through training.
Discuss the transition of and the merging of collections and/or services. Which collections could/should VR collections merge with? Departmental collections are easy to cut so we must think about this carefully.
Is the future with ARTstor?
Do we need to write reports documenting our involvement with licensing new resources; the changes in curriculum development; our technical expertise; and subject experience?
We should encourage faculty to concentrate on collections not available through licensed resources.
Develop partnerships with other departments. Understand that images are not only being used by art historians in classroom pedagogy.
Make sure we get together and talk once a year.
VRD needs to propose ideas/content for the next meeting, something with broad appeal. Image searching was one idea. Please feel free to suggest more.

Meeting was adjourned by Nicole Finzer.