Welcome to The Medium, the semi-annual newsletter of the ARLIS/NA Texas-Mexico Chapter. The Fall 2019 issue (v. 45, no. 2) contains the approved Spring meeting minutes from the ARLIS/NA 2019 Conference in Salt Lake City and pictorial highlights from the Annual Chapter Meeting in Houston, Texas.
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President's Column

By Sunyoung Park

It was a true pleasure to host chapter members in Houston for the fall meeting this October. Although one weekend could never be enough time to explore all that our vast and culturally rich city has to offer, I was delighted we could share a few Houston treasures with meeting attendees. These meetings are a wonderful opportunity to catch up with familiar faces and meet new colleagues. This year, we were thrilled to welcome several new student members to the chapter. Thank you to everyone who attended, and to those who couldn’t attend, we missed you, but hope to see you in St. Louis.

Some of the Houston highlights included tours of the Menil Collection Library, Hirsch Library of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), Sarah Campbell Blaffer Center for Conservation, and the Printing Museum. We also learned about Houston art history from Pete Gershon, who spoke about the work and research leading up to his recent books and exhibition on local artists and studios. Joel Pelanne also gave a great talk about his exhibition “The Revolution Will be Publicized” which featured selections from the Hirsch Library special collections. There were several opportunities for merriment and conversation at social events, and we enjoyed particularly illuminating presentations at the annual Research Roundtable. It’s inspiring to hear about the excellent projects, research, and activities chapter members are actively engaged in within Texas and beyond, and I know we all learn so much from each other’s’ continued professional accomplishments.

My sincere thanks to Helen Lueders, Lauren Gottlieb-Miller, and Joel Pelanne for their thoughtful planning and work in putting together the program and coordinating events. Additionally, I thank my colleagues at the Hirsch and Powell Libraries at the MFAH for their efforts and support as they also made this weekend possible.

As my term as Chapter President comes to an end, I can honestly say it’s been a whirlwind of a year. Several chapter pursuits progressed throughout this busy time. Among these are an annual conference host city proposal spearheaded by Mark Pompelia and Jon Evans, increased student
outreach to library school students and new professionals, and plans for revising the chapter website to meet digital accessibility standards and include more Spanish language translated content. Additionally, we are preparing the Chapter Archives records for transfer and hope to fill the newly formed Chapter Archivist position soon. Finally, with Hillary Veeder’s dedication and perseverance as Chapter Treasurer, we added an online payment option for membership payments and Lois Swan Jones donations. While some of this is still a work in progress, your Executive Board has been hard at work on many fronts, and in particular to ensure the chapter’s financial well-being is secured for the future.

I thank each of you for the privilege of serving as this year’s President. I’ve had the good fortune of working with an outstanding team including Vice President/President-Elect Jenny Stone, Treasurer Hillary Veeder, and Secretary Helen Lueders. I’m excited for the upcoming year with this excellent group leading the chapter.

All my best,
Sunyoung Park
2019 President, ARLIS/NA Texas-Mexico Chapter
Metadata Librarian
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
ARLIS/NA Texas-Mexico Chapter Meeting Minutes (Spring)

ARLIS/NA 2019 Conference, Salt Lake City
Wednesday, March 27, 2019, 8:00 am – 8:50 am
Venue: Belvedere (Level 3), Grand American Hotel

Minutes taken by Secretary Helen Leuders

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order and Welcome

President Sunyoung Park called meeting to order at 8:02 am.

Introductions

Sunyoung Park
Helen Lueders
Mark Pompelia
Beverly Mitchell
Becca Pad
Katherine Hooker
Jenny Stone
Kathleen Alleman
Chia-Chun Shih
Eric Wolf
Catherine Essinger
Sarah Stanhope
Gabrielle Reed
Sha Towers
Joel Pelanne
Lauren Gottlieb-Miller
Jon Evans
Sam Duncan
Quentin Pace

2. Approve Minutes from October 2018 Meeting in Austin (Sunyoung Park)
Sunyoung Park moved to approve minutes.
Lauren Gottlieb-Miller seconded the approval.
Motion carried unanimously.

3. Chapter Officer Reports
   A. President’s Report (Sunyoung Park)
Sunyoung thanked the chapter for the opportunity to serve in as Chapter President and wants to help guide the chapter in reaching out to members as well as different audiences.

Sunyoung has submitted an annual report to ARLIS/NA summarizing the Texas-Mexico chapter’s 2018 activities and outlining some action items for 2019 as well. These activities will align with the strategic directions of the national chapter as well. The full report can be found on the ARLIS/NA website: https://www.arlisna.org/images/annualreports/2018/2018_ARLISNA_AnnualReport_TexasMexicoChapter.pdf

B. Vice President’s Report (Jenny Stone)
Jenny put out a call for contributions for the next issue Medium, especially for submissions related to the conference in Salt Lake City.

C. Treasurer’s Report (Sunyoung reported for Hillary Veeder)
Sunyoung reported that the chapter’s balance as of March 20, 2019: $1,435.67. Recent account activity includes payments for the Lois Swan Jones Award ($750) and the Chapter donation in support of the Salt Lake City Conference ($400).

Official chapter membership count for 2018-2019 as of the time of this meeting is 23 members.

For a detailed account of the chapter’s finances, see full Treasurer’s Report appended to the minutes.

D. Secretary’s Report (Helen Leuders)
Helen thanked the chapter for the opportunity to serve as Chapter Secretary for the first time.

Helen reported that she will forward this meeting’s minutes to the chapter’s executive board for revision and approval before submitting the meeting minutes to be published in The Medium.

4. **Mexico City Conference Proposal Update** (Jon Evans & Mark Pompelia)
Mark reported that at the New York City conference in 2018, he volunteered to lead the Mexico City proposal going forward. There was some discussion of creating a joint proposal with Southern California, but due to some leadership issues in that chapter, they ended 2018 unsure of how they could commit to the proposal. Mark stated that for now the Texas-Mexico chapter will move forward alone with the proposal.

Mark has created a Google Drive folder with all ARLIS documents relevant to the proposal including examples of proposal letters for New York City and Washington, D.C.

Catherine Essinger stated that she had called a meeting to revamp the process and timeline going forward and recommended including local volunteers and partners that will assist with location arrangements as part of the proposal rather than finding people to assist afterward.

Mark stated that he believes Mexico City may not require much “selling” in terms of theme, but if anyone in the chapter has ideas on the subject, to contact Mark or Jon Evans. Fernando Corona is very interested in helping with the national conference proposal.
Eric Wolf reminded us we’ve never had one in Mexico despite the title of the organization indicating North America so to avoid neglecting ⅓ of North America and to support the organization’s mission, it’s time to go.

Beverly Mitchell stated that while this chapter has made sincere effort to bring Mexican members into the organization, it would be very worthwhile to spread these efforts to the larger ARLIS organization.

Gabrielle Reed said that there may be some issues related to the cost of joining ARLIS/NA, which may be too expensive for local librarians (even paying international fees).

Lauren Gottlieb-Miller suggested that given the political climate, it would be valuable to look outside of Anglo-American focus of past conferences and also stated that travel and lodging might be relatively cheap compared to many locations.

Catherine Essinger stated that we may need to research how labor laws work in Mexico related to transportation, set up, and so on as legal requirements may differ. The chapter may need to budget for certain costs, which she stated was an issue in New York as well.

Gabrielle Reed stated that we will need to consider vendors and potential issues they may face in preparing for an international conference.

Catherine Essinger noted that the number of vendors will likely be fewer which also happened when the conference has been held in Canada also.

Mark Pompelia concluded that he will work on a proposal draft.

Jon Evans suggested if anyone wants to be involved for programming or organization to please let Mark or Jon know.

Sunyoung Park asked about ideas for how to build international membership going forward perhaps by bundling memberships.

Catherine Essinger said that re-configuring award money to serve international people who may need assistance might be an option. Jon Evans asked if there was a way the International Relations Committee could support Mexican members’ attendance.

Beverly Mitchell said that could be proposed and she would be willing to discuss that at their meeting.

5. Lois Swan Jones Committee Report (Helen Leuders)
Helen congratulated Quentin Pace as the 2019 Lois Swan Jones Award recipient.

Helen also thanked Lauren Gottlieb-Miller for taking over as Chair of the Lois Swan Jones award going forward as she takes on the role of Chapter Secretary. Helen will transfer all committee materials to Lauren.

6. Chapter Archives & Archivist Position Update (Sunyoung Park)
Sunyoung reported that the chapter’s archives are at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Born-digital chapter listserv archives are currently being processed at UIUC but in the meantime, Sunyoung has retained PDFs of messages in case any chapter member needs immediate access.
Sunyoung is reviewing and making a list of physical chapter archives materials at MFAH before sending to UIUC later this year. Future born-digital and physical materials will be sent to UIUC, but we are temporarily ingesting digital files via Google Drive while we work out an organization and standardization process.

Sunyoung stated that she is hopeful a future Chapter Archivist can help manage this once we finalize that position. Sunyoung has expanded on the position description Lisa Cruces established, and she will send the position description out via listserv to be discussed at the Fall 2019 meeting.

Sunyoung has created a Flickr account to store chapter photos (currently we are allowed 1000 images with no file size limitation) and is happy to receive photos (old or recent) from chapter members (with any descriptive metadata available) via email. While we can consider future options going forward, Sunyoung stated that she wants to work with the chapter archivist on it.

7. Fall 2019 Meeting in Houston (Sunyoung Park)

Sunyoung discussed the logistics of the Fall 2019 meeting in Houston. Sunyoung asked if the chapter members would like a designated hotel chosen or if they would prefer to choose independently.

Joel Pelanne cited past issues with reserving a “block” of rooms for a small amount of people.

Lauren Gottlieb-Miller suggested that in lieu of a designated hotel, the organizers provide a few suggested hotel options as they did for the Austin 2018 meeting.

Sunyoung concluded by asking members to let her know if they knew of any conflicts they might have in the fall and stated that she would send out a survey in the future to narrow down the best dates for the meeting.

8. New Business (All)

A. Membership Fees

Catherine Essinger reported on new business related to national and chapter membership fees. While in a previous meeting we had voted to raise membership dues for the chapter to 25 dollars, Catherine let us know that this would be in conflict with the current bundling discussion, which would standardize chapter membership at 20 dollars.

To give background on the subject, Catherine reminded us that 3 years ago, there were issues trying to standardize fee structures between chapters. The membership committee decided to propose a standard flat rate, but this required a vote. Currently they are waiting on a Canadian chapter that is sorting out this issue, once this is worked out (which Catherine anticipates) there will be a category added in the renewal option so that members can bundle chapter along with national membership dues. ARLIS/NA will then send a check from to each chapter on a quarterly basis. This new system will be given a trial period of two years, although Catherine thinks it is likely it will stay in place.

Eric Wolf moved to keep membership fees in line with ARLIS/NA bundle so we don’t have to keep voting on it.

Catherine Essinger seconds the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.
B. Chapter Survey

Sunyoung reminded us that she had sent out a survey for TX/MX chapter members and is seeking ideas for future programming for the fall meeting and in general. Of particular interest is virtual programming which may be of particular interest to Mexican members of the chapter.

C. Thank you to Catherine Essinger

Sunyoung wanted to formally recognize Catherine Essinger for her service as Chapter Liaison.

She presented a motion to thank Catherine for service.
Jon Evans seconded the motion.
The motion is carried unanimously.

D. Executive Board Nominations

Eric Wolf and Joel Pelanne are the nominating group for the executive board going forward. If anyone is interested in the Vice President position, please contact them.

Catherine Essinger commended the executive board and Eric Wolf for the successful chapter meeting in Austin and Sunyoung Park for her work so far as President.

9. Adjourn
   Eric Wolf moved that the meeting be adjourned.
   Joel Pelanne seconded.
   Motion passed unanimously, and meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

10. Group photo
Tour Highlights: Fall Chapter Meeting, October 18-20, 2019
Photos by Sunyoung Park and Kate Alleman
Captions and text by Jenny Stone and Sunyoung Park

Attendees kicked off the meeting by touring the Campbell Blaffer Foundation Center for Conservation at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

We then headed over to the Glassell School of Art where Pete Gershon gave a presentation on the history of the Glassell School of Art and the exhibition *Prints and Ceramics from Little Egypt Enterprises*. The new building for the school was completed in May 2018.
That night, after a group happy hour (shout out to Tropicales!), chapter members trekked over to Rice University to see James Turrell’s Twilight Epiphany Skyspace.

(Photo by K. Alleman)
On Saturday morning, Lauren Gottleib-Miller and Donna McClendon led a tour of the Menil Collection Library, highlighting important works in the collection.

“Horse, Rider, and Clown” from Matisse’s illustrated book Jazz (Photo by S. Park)

Miniature book! (Photo by K. Alleman)
Saturday afternoon, we headed over to The Printing Museum where Ji You, Director of Education and Interpretation gave a tour of the museum and demonstrated various printing techniques. (All photos by S. Park)
Following the Research Roundtable and business meeting on Sunday, attendees were treated to a talk about the Hirsch Library’s current exhibition, “The Revolution Will Be Publicized: Printing the Resistance” and a tour of the library’s collections.

Hirsch Library exhibition talk with Joel Pelanne. (Photo by S. Park)

Jon Evans presents selections from the library’s special collections. (Photo by S. Park)
Sarah Stanhope discusses highlights from the Manfred Heiting book collection in the Anne Wilkes Tucker Center for Photography. (Photo by S. Park)
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