

## DIVISION NEWS

### Architecture Libraries

Janine Henri

▶ The Texas Historical Commission at its October 2003 meeting appointed Margaret Culbertson to serve on the Texas State Board of Review as an architectural historian. The members of the board represent various fields and regions of the state and review the Texas nominations to the National Register of Historic Places. Congratulations Margaret!

▶ The next meeting of the Association of Architecture School Librarians will be in Miami, March 18-21, 2004. For more information, consult the [AASL web site](#).

Janine Henri recently represented the AASL at the National Architectural Accrediting Board's Validation Conference in Santa Fe, in October.

Janine has also recently published two articles:

Henri, Janine. "Management, Public Service, and Access Issues: Serving Special Collections in an Architecture Branch Library," *Journal of Library Administration*, vol. 39, no. 1, 2003, pp. 57-76 (and simultaneously in: *The Twenty-First Century Art Librarian*, Terrie L. Wilson, editor. New York: Haworth Press, 2003, pp. 57-76).

Brown, Jeanne M., Paul Glassman, and Janine Henri. *The Library and the Accreditation Process in Design Disciplines: Best Practices*. (ARLIS/NA Occasional Paper #14). Kanata, Ontario: Art Libraries Society of North America, 2003.

Submitted by Janine Henri

# THE Medium

v. 29, no. 3 (fall/winter 2003) | [issues](#)

## ► PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Friends,

In 2005, the society will venture to Houston for the first time in its 31 year history. I fully expect that we will give them a proper welcome by serving up some Texas-sized hospitality.

We have the opportunity to show off the city as a first-rate cultural center, while displaying what we can do as a chapter. To do so, we will have to come together by extending our volunteerism to a new level. Each of us will have to make a commitment to this event, regardless of where you are located, what skills you have to offer, and how much time you have to give. That said, I fully expect that we will have some fun in the process.

For those of you wondering how you can participate, below is a list of the various positions that have yet to be filled and a general description of their responsibilities. For a more detailed explanation of each, please see the [Conference Planning Manual](#) on the ARLIS/NA website.

- **Local Arrangements Chairs**  
Mark Pompelia and Jon Evans
- **Program Chairs**  
Laura Schwartz and Elizabeth Schaub
- **Registration/Hospitality Desk Coordinator**  
Volunteer needed!  
The Registration/Hospitality Desk Coordinator has the responsibility to schedule volunteers to distribute the registration packets to arriving attendees. S/he also needs to coordinate volunteers to staff the hospitality desk, which may be separated physically and administratively.
- **Exhibits Coordinators**  
Janine Henri and Marty Stein
- **Special Events Coordinator**  
Volunteer needed!  
A designated Special Events coordinator may be appointed by the Co-Chairs to handle logistics for any special events such as a Welcome Party, the Convocation, a Membership Lunch, banquet or tea, Exhibits Opener, Silent Auction reception, etc. One area of special events is decorations, such as balloons, flowers, etc.
- **Website Coordinator**  
Volunteer needed!  
The conference website is the most visible source of updated information about the program, tours, workshops, special events, the hotel, and the host city.
- **Development Coordinator**  
Volunteer needed!  
The Development Coordinator is in charge of all fundraising needs for the conference in concert with the Development Committee.
- **Fundraising Event Coordinator**  
Volunteer needed!  
This position coordinates all activities related to any fundraising event. It has yet to be determined whether we will have a silent auction or some other type of fundraiser. Additionally, this position will work closely with the local Development Coordinator.

- **Tours Coordinator**  
Margaret Culbertson
- **Publicity Coordinator**  
Volunteer needed!

Information on the forthcoming conference should be disseminated internationally, nationally, regionally and locally. Approximately two months before the conference the local publicity person should send out a newsheet to local organizations and publications with information about the conference. Press releases to newspapers should be distributed much closer to the dates of the conference.

As you can see, there are lots of opportunities to participate. We need your help. So, please contact Mark Pompelia (pompelia@rice.edu) or myself (jevans@mfa.org) to be a part of this great event. I look forward to working with each and every one of you to make this event a success.

Regards,  
Jon Evans  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

---

► **SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT**



Group portrait outside Hampton Inn

Minutes of the ARLIS/Texas-Mexico Annual Business Meeting held at the Hampton Inn, St. Charles, New Orleans, LA on November 15, 2003.

President Jon Evans welcomed members to the 30th Annual ARLIS/TX-MX Chapter Meeting. Evans acknowledged the contributions of Mary Leonard, Margaret Culbertson, Janine Henri and Beverly Carver who helped make the joint conference with the Southeast Chapter possible.

Members in attendance introduced themselves. They included:

Jon Evans  
Sam Duncan  
Gwen Dixie\*  
Mary Leonard  
Elizabeth Schaub  
Polly Trump  
Mark Pompelia  
Beth Dodd

Janine Henri  
Allen Townsend  
Laura Schwartz  
Beverly Carver  
Brandon Pope\*  
Margaret Culbertson\*  
Elise Hill\*\*

\*Departed before meeting adjourned.

\*\*Arrived after meeting commenced.

### **President's Report**

Jon Evans thanked Laura Schwartz for encouraging the Chapter's participation in a joint conference and thanked Sam Duncan for his continued work on the Chapter web site; Duncan actively works on updating and changing the site to meet the Chapter's evolving needs and to reflect the best web design practices.

Evans reported on outreach efforts stating that the Chapter was committed to continuing outreach to Mexican colleagues. To this end, the Chapter received funding from the Society to hire someone to translate the Chapter's home page and membership form into Spanish. Evans asked members to encourage qualified applicants, particularly a library school student, who might be interested in doing this to contact him. Evans suggested the Chapter focus on recruitment efforts aimed at attracting Mexican librarians and library school students.

Evans acknowledged individual member's accomplishments: Allen Townsend, Laura Schwartz and Phil Heagy are all currently serving on the Society's Executive Board. John Hagood has accepted a reference librarian position at the National Gallery but will continue to serve as chair of the Chapter's Lois Swan Jones Award Committee. Mark Pompelia organized a very well received Visual Resources Association Annual Conference in Houston, Texas, April 7-13, 2003. Laura Schwartz received the President's Excellence Award from The University of Texas at Austin. "The award honors and recognizes the invaluable contributions of eligible non-teaching employees whose outstanding dedication, competence, conscientious performance, excellent customer service, or ingenuity has had a significant impact on the University." Schwartz was also named Acting Head of the Fine Arts Library in September 2003. Beth Dodd and Janine Henri curated two exhibits respectively titled "Architecture and Planning Library Collections and Services" shown in the Main Building, and "Timeless Treasures" on view in the Perry-Castaneda Library at The University of Texas at Austin. Mary Leonard and Jacqui Allen helped celebrate the Dallas Museum of Art's centennial and Allen's department provided images for the centennial catalog. Evans and his wife welcomed their second daughter, Emma, into the world 7 weeks ago.

### **Vice-President's Report**

Mary Leonard has edited two issues of *The Medium*. She commended Gwen Dixie on her ongoing travel log contributions.

The deadline for the next issue will be in early December 2003. Leonard will notify individuals via the listserv of the actual date.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Beverly Carver distributed the Treasurer's Report covering the period from

January 1-November 11, 2003.

Beginning balance	\$1,853.17
<b>Income</b>	
Membership dues	375.00
Lois Swan Jones Travel Award	442.00
Interest on bank account	1.91
T-shirt sales (3)	45.00
Postage for T-shirts	3.85
ARLIS/NA funding for regional meeting	500.00
Total income	\$1,367.76
Sub-total	\$3,220.93
<b>Expenses</b>	
Lois Swan Jones Travel Award	850.00
Hostway	167.40
Network Solutions	75.00
Domain Registry	40.00
Flowers	51.48
Bank fees	76.00
Postage	5.95
TOTAL	\$1,265.83
Ending balance	\$1,955.10

Carver has opened a new Chapter checking account. The Chapter's current bank would not offer free checking thus the decision was made to change banking institutions. As of the meeting, the two accounts were both active and she had used the new account exclusively for conference expenses so she could more easily track expenditures.

Questions about the cost of the New Orleans conference were raised. Jon Evans responded that there had been some cost overruns but that he was confident that we would be able to cover the associated costs using a portion of the current balance in the Chapter's checking account.

The issue of online banking was raised and Carver responded that the Chapter is recognized as a business and therefore ineligible for this service.

Carver reported that she would have a finalized Treasurer 's Report for the next issue of *The Medium*.

### **Secretary's Report**

Elizabeth Schaub stated that she had reported on the Chapter's activities in the August 2003, number 4 edition of ARLIS/NA Update. The next submission deadline for ARLIS/NA Update is in early December 2003; she will focus on our joint conference in New Orleans and our excitement about hosting the Society's Annual Conference in Houston in 2005.

Evans did not have last year's minutes in hand so Polly Trump suggested the Chapter approve them online after the members have had a chance to review them.

## South Regional Representative's Report

Laura Schwartz reported that information about the upcoming ARLIS/NA Annual Conference in NYC April 15-20, 2004 is [online](#).

Schwartz attended the Society's Board Meeting in Philadelphia August 26-27, 2003. The structure of the Society was addressed on a number of fronts. First, the moratorium on round tables has been lifted. The Board will require a statement of purpose from those wishing to establish new roundtables. The Diversity Committee has been reestablished based on the forum in Baltimore. During the Annual Conference in New York in 2004, a forum will be held to discuss how public librarians can be accommodated within the structure of the Society.

Schwartz went on to say that the Board's taskforce, as mentioned previously, will clarify the relationship of the Society to the Chapters and will provide guidelines for the Chapters. Further, the taskforce will examine a variety of models and options and obtain legal advice as necessary to clearly define the relationship between the Society and the Chapters and determine issues of liability.

The Society's current dues structure based upon income bracket has been identified by Elizabeth Clarke as overly complex and potentially breaching members' right-to-privacy. The Board has been examining a proposal to reduce the number of membership levels to seven. Membership category changes need to be approved by a two-thirds majority of the members while dues increases must be approved by a majority. Allen Townsend plans to present it to the Membership Committee at the Society's 2004 Annual Conference. The proposal needs to come from the Committee. The provision of institutional members naming individual representatives to receive mailings may be reviewed.

There is a taskforce reviewing the effectiveness of the Society's web site.

There will be a forum at the 2004 Annual Conference to discuss the Society's strategic plan.

Conference sites following the Houston 2005 conference are as follows: Banff, Alberta, Canada in 2006 and Atlanta, Georgia in 2007.

The Society approved the Chapter's request for funding to translate the Chapter's web site home page and membership form into Spanish. Elizabeth Clarke will be working on having the Society's membership form translated into Spanish and French.

Evans thanked Townsend for addressing the diversity issue stating that it was a very positive move for the Society.

## Webmaster's Report

Sam Duncan posted three new issues of *The Medium* (v.28:3, 29:1, 29:2) on the [Chapter's web site](#). Duncan pointed out that the depth of the archives has grown and there are currently fourteen issues of *The Medium* (v. 24:3-4 through v.29:2) available online and searchable via the search engine loaded on the site.

Duncan asked that all special formatting be removed on documents that will migrate to a web environment because often special characters do not format well.

There are four meetings listed in the history section with links to the itinerary and agendas for the respective meetings.

The Chapter's domain has been renewed for the next couple of years.

Duncan noted that the Chapter's listserv is not immune to spam; he receives one or two spam messages a day that he must deal with. All new subscriptions to the listserv are approved before being added so this helps manage potential abuse.

Duncan reminded members that he is always open to ideas and suggestions for enhancing and improving the site; he actively works on updating the site to reflect current web standards.

Polly Trump asked if there could be a meeting for all the Chapter web designers at the Society's Annual Conference. Allen Townsend responded that this could be arranged.

Laura Schwartz suggested that the Society should be looking at the Chapter's web site as a model. Townsend responded that Jeanne Brown is in the process of reviewing the Society's web site and a taskforce is looking into making it a more user friendly site. He has suggested they look at the Chapter's site as a benchmark.

Townsend stated that Duncan will be working hard on the web site for the Society's upcoming Annual Conference in Houston in 2005.

Duncan suggested that *The Medium* archives be posted online. It was suggested that the Chapter investigate online credit card payment and web accessible forms that can be submitted online. To that end, PayPal's services may be an option. Duncan will inquire with the Chapter's Internet Service Provider as to whether they might be able to help us with this. He will report back to the Chapter's Executive Board per Evans's request.

Evans requested a web accessible narrative of the Chapter's history be made available.

Janine Henri wondered if the Society might want to sponsor a UT School of Information Capstone Project to put the Chapter's archives on the web. Beth Dodd volunteered to look into this on the Chapter's behalf. Schwartz suggested that the Chapter could ask the Society for \$500 towards an honorarium to support such a project. Discussion ensued regarding the current state of the Chapter's archives. Henri stated that there are antiquated discs with data and old versions of software and Polly Trump indicated that most of the discs contained duplicate copies of back-ups and membership lists.

Duncan suggested that there may be some concern with the Chapter's membership list being available on the Chapter's web site making our respective e-mail addresses accessible to spammers. Members thought that we should continue to include this information on the membership page as no one has reported being adversely affected thus far.

#### **Election of Vice-President/President-Elect**

Jon Evans informed the Chapter that the nominating committee comprised of Ann Jones and Jacqui Allen approached Mark Pompelia to run for the office of Vice-President/President-Elect and he has accepted. Evans asked for additional nominations and none were offered.

By a vote of acclamation, Pompelia was elected to serve as Vice-President/President-Elect for 2004-2005.

Pompelia responded by saying that he is happy to serve the Chapter in this capacity and he is looking forward to helping lead the Chapter as we prepare to host the Society 's Annual Conference in Houston in 2005.

### **Lois Swan Jones Committee Report**

Jon Evans reported that the Houston members, Meriann Bidgood and Mark Pompelia will continue to serve on the Lois Swan Jones Committee. John Hagood will continue to serve as chair despite his relocation to Washington, DC. Hagood will post an announcement on the web site and ARLIS-L regarding the award.

Beth Dodd reminded the members since there is not an active fund raising effort underway, everyone should remember to contribute towards the award. Janine Henri suggested that the balance in the Chapter's checking account should go towards funding the travel award. Debate ensued as to what constituted a healthy balance and whether the Chapter should strive to have one. Allen Townsend reminded the Chapter that opportunities requiring funding might present themselves and it would be nice to have money on hand to deal with them. Evans expressed concern that the award be enough to have an impact on a member's ability to fund the majority of expenses associated with conference attendance. Henri moved to offer one award of \$850. Mary Leonard seconded the motion. Evans expressed concern that the Chapter's funds and the conference expenses might not leave enough money to offer an \$850 award. Henri amended the motion to decrease the amount of the award from \$850 to \$750. Margaret Culbertson seconded the motion. Evans called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Dodd made a motion that the Chapter donate \$250 to the Society 's 2004 Annual Conference Welcome Party in New York. Leonard seconded the motion. Evans called for a vote; the motion passed with Laura Schwartz and Townsend abstaining.

### **Membership Recruitment Update**

Members reported on efforts to recruit new members into the Chapter. Elise Hill, graduate student at The University of Texas at Austin School of Information, has been encouraging her peers to join and has brought two fellow students into the Chapter. Allen Townsend is sponsoring an internship at the Amon Carter for library school students and hopes this might raise the Chapter's profile.

Beverly Carver reported that we currently have 24 members. Hill suggested that library school students may not know about the existence of the Society. Janine Henri reported that she had sent information to all library schools in Texas about the Chapter. Hill remarked that SAA and ALA both have strong student contingents at library schools and wondered why ARLIS/NA did not have the same. Beth Dodd suggested that local Society members could host an open house or reception to foment interest. Jon Evans concurred that exposing students to the organization through personal contact such as during career days, should be encouraged. Evans suggested that in order for the Chapter to effectively recruit Mexican members, we would need to have a physical connection not just communication through mailings. In addition, Evans stated that it would be nice for someone to head up such a recruitment effort and/or act as a liaison for recruitment between the Chapter and those whom we are trying

to recruit.

### **Conference Updates & Discussion**

The location of the next 2004 annual Chapter meeting was discussed. Debate ensued as to whether to hold the meeting in Dallas or Houston.

Mary Leonard mentioned the recently opened Nasher Sculpture Center, the Dallas Museum of Art and the Meadows Museum as institutions that would lend themselves to attracting Chapter members for a meeting. Concern was expressed from members who would be taking on active roles as the Chapter readies itself to host the Society's Annual Conference in Houston in 2005; Janine Henri reminded members that the upcoming Chapter meeting would be a conference planning meeting as opposed to a meeting with a large measure of programming. Laura Schwartz suggested that it was crucial that the entire membership be involved in hosting the Society's Annual Conference and to that end meeting in Houston in 2004 would encourage a greater number of Chapter members' participation; it would also facilitate member's ability to contribute input about conference related issues. Allen Townsend said that Elizabeth Clarke would be acting as conference manager thus lessening the burden on the Chapter and therefore the Chapter might not need to meet in Houston in 2004. Mark Pompelia stated that if the Chapter does not meet in Houston in 2004 then there will need to be another meeting attended by Chapter members holding key roles in the Houston 2005 conference coordination.

Evans encouraged people to volunteer for conference planning roles that are available; he will post a list of available positions to the Chapter listserv. So far, Evans and Pompelia will be Local Arrangements co-chairs, Elizabeth Schaub and Schwartz will act as Program co-chairs, Marty Stein and Henri will co-chair Events, Jacqui Allen will act as Publicity Coordinator and Margaret Culbertson will act as Tours Coordinator. Townsend suggested that commitments for the remaining roles should be fleshed-out by the Society's Annual Conference in April 2004 and that the Chapter would be expected to do a presentation focusing on Houston at the NYC conference.

Discussion returned to where to hold the next Chapter meeting. Evans would like to see the Chapter engage in as much pre-planning as possible in order to effectively host the Society's Annual Conference in 2005. Pompelia asked whether the Chapter could make a formal exception to switch planning duties for the Chapter's 2004 meeting from the President to the Vice-President/President Elect. Henri thought that Leonard needed to delegate conference planning to a committee. Evans expressed interest in helping plan for a Chapter meeting in Houston in 2004. Schwartz pointed out that the more people who are familiar with Houston the better prepared the Chapter would be to fulfill our obligation to host the Society's Annual Conference in Houston. Leonard stated that she would not object to Pompelia planning the Chapter's annual meeting in Houston in 2004 and she committed to planning the Chapter meeting in Dallas in 2005.

Allen Townsend complimented Leonard and Pompelia for their flexibility and the Chapter members as a whole for their collegiality.

### **Special Cataloging Project**

Sam Duncan expressed an interest in the Chapter sponsoring a project to inventory Donald Judd's personal library located in Marfa, Texas. Chapter members agreed that Duncan should send the Judd Foundation a letter of

interest in order to determine the current disposition of the library before proceeding.

### **New Business**

Polly Trump acknowledged Jon Evans for the stellar job he has done since moving into the role of President following Laura Schwartz's move from President to South Regional Representative.

<applause from the Chapter>

Meeting adjourned by Evans at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Elizabeth Schaub  
Director, Audio Visual Resources Collection  
School of Architecture  
The University of Texas at Austin  
512.471.5003

---

### **► CONFERENCE REPORTS**

#### **Tour of The Historic New Orleans Collection**

This year's annual meeting auspiciously started with a fascinating tour of The Historic New Orleans Collection (HNOC) and its research wing, the Williams Research Center. Established in 1966 by Mr. and Mrs. L. Kemper Williams, the HNOC's mandate was to house and cultivate their collection of Louisiana-related material and make it available to a public audience via exhibitions and research facilities. Today the collection is supported by the Kemper and Leila Williams Foundation and has burgeoned into seven buildings located in the French Quarter, including galleries, a house museum, the research center, and a schedule of exhibitions focusing on the Gulf South, Louisiana and New Orleans in particular.

The Williams Research Center, which opened in 1996, is located a short distance away from the nucleus of the HNOC. The Center is comprised of three areas: manuscripts, curatorial, and library. Its collections are wonderfully rich, and include over one million items ranging from paintings and photographs to books, maps, and other artifacts. The entire spectrum of the history of the area is represented. The Center enjoys a robust publishing program as well, having produced around thirty items related to its collections to date, ranging from books to CDs. Another way the Center promotes learning about its collections is via programs like Teaching American History in Louisiana (TAHL), a Web-based teaching tool used by area schools for which the Center is providing digital content. The Center is also using OCLC's CONTENTdm platform for digitizing and providing access to its map collection. Attendees were treated to a tour of the reading room, archival storage areas, and viewed of some of the photographs from the collection, including images by Richard Koch and Clarence John Laughlin.

Attendees also viewed the current exhibition at the HNOC, Napoleon's Eyewitness: Pierre Clément Laussat and the Louisiana Purchase, along with some of the other treasures related to Louisiana's past in the history galleries. Finally, the group enjoyed a fascinating tour of the Williams Residence, a house museum which opened to the public in 1973.

Submitted by Sam Duncan

### **Tour of the O'Neal Auction House**



O'Neal Auction House staff

The staff of O'Neal Auction House on Magazine Street allowed conference attendees to look around their auction rooms and then spoke in an informal manner about their auction business. They do issue catalogs--- irregularly--- when a big auction is coming up. Many of their objects are from estates, mostly in the local area (the Southeast and Mississippi Valley). They also handle individual consignments. Taking an individual object just brought in can be problematical however. One painting brought in by a man and sold, later was claimed as the property of a whole family not just the man. Judging from what was available the day of the tour, they mostly handle antique furniture and paintings. Their establishment included a "Louisiana Treasure Room" with paintings of local artists. Curious about the Clementine Hunters, especially the one on the back of an ironing board, I asked what it might sell for. The guess from the experienced auction house owner was \$5,000 to \$6,000 with the choice to turn it over and use the other side for ironing when needed. Five staff members spoke and answered questions. Most had a particular expertise such as eighteenth century American furniture or Southern items.

Submitted by Gwen Dixie

### **Walking Tour of Garden District**

Saturday morning began with Bethany Bultman providing tips on understanding New Orleans (accompanied by a handout no less!) and a brief history of the settling of New Orleans and the Garden District. Ms. Bultman is the author of *New Orleans* (Compass American Guides) and other books on Southern culture. She is a resident of the Garden District, which is a recognized National Historic District.

New Orleans was first settled in 1708 at Bayou St. John. Successive waves of European immigrants (and persecuted Nova Scotia settlers) contributed to the culture of New Orleans. Before the Civil War the Garden District was part of a single French plantation that was sold to American developers. It was then quickly developed in the 1840s and 1850s. District residents were the 'mercantile princes' who made their fortunes in the boom of the 1830's, but were not exactly welcome in the Catholic French Quarter. Many were cotton or sugar brokers. District houses and gardens were designed by architects and reflect styles popular at the time elsewhere in the United States.



Bultman House (interior)

We were then guided through the Garden District where we were able to tour three houses. First was Bethany Bultman's own home, built in the late 1850's by cotton broker James Freret (owned by her husband's family since the 1920's). Unlike typical Garden District houses, this one does not have a stepped entry to an elevated ground floor, which means that the marble floor floods several times a year! Ms Bultman's father-in-law collected abstract expressionist paintings, her husband collects African art, and she collects historic New Orleans artifacts. As a result, her house is exuberantly decorated to give the impression of a 19th century colonial African interior. The upstairs hall features original murals (and, due to the humidity, peeling paint which has been accentuated to appear part of the decor). The house features high ceilings, so the heat might rise, as well as a 'gallery' (a second floor balcony along the entire front side) and a water garden inspired by the Bultman's travels to Turkey. Tennessee Williams wrote *The Glass Menagerie* while residing in this house! We were provided with details about life and housekeeping in the 1850's (such as the practice of covering gilded furniture & mirrors with cheesecloth so flies would not leave specks) and insights into her restoration efforts. This left us with a colorful impression of past & present day Garden District lifestyle.



Ripley House (front porch)

Next we were treated to a tour of the home of Craig & Louise Ripley. The original 1849 house was expanded in the 1880's and is attributed to James Gallier, Sr. This is an unusual house for the district because of its Gothic style. Mr. Gallier had traveled to the North, returning with design ideas to New Orleans where he built houses 'on spec'. Like many of the Garden District properties, the lot has been subdivided and the original carriage house has been transformed into a separate residence. Mrs. Ripley discussed with us some of the challenges of maintaining a historic house, while at the same time taking pride in local

preservation efforts.



Christovich House (rear)

Finally we were treated to a tour of the home of William and Mary Louise Christovich (the Gilmour-Parker House). Mrs. Christovich is chair of the Board of the Historic New Orleans Collection and is author of the 8-volume opus, *New Orleans Architecture*. The English architect Isaac Thayer designed her home in 1853 for an English couple in the cotton business (the Gilmour family). The home was added to in the 1880's and Mrs. Christovich has decorated it with period furnishings. Brick used for the home is from Lake Pontchartrain clay, a soft clay that has to be covered up to endure the New Orleans climate. The second owner (Mrs. Parker) subdivided the original property during the Depression. We were regaled with tales of Mrs. Christovich's research into historic New Orleans interiors and her historic furniture acquisitions. The tour ended with a sample of Southern hospitality in the form of iced tea and goldfish crackers. The whole experience was a real treat!

Submitted by Janine Henri

### **Collection Assessment: Tools and Techniques Session**

Following lunch on Friday afternoon, chapter members convened in the Freeman Auditorium within the Woldenburg Art Center on the Tulane University campus to presentations on different aspects of collection assessment.

The session began with Tom Caswell, from The University of Florida's Architecture & Fine Arts Library, who presented information about "Identifying & Building Core Collections in Museum Studies." He discussed his methodology for determining titles to acquire in support of his university's museum studies programs. Caswell noted that currently there is no accreditation board for museum studies programs; hence, there is neither an established bibliography nor benchmarks of certain numbers of titles in a given LC class one can consult while building a collection. Caswell provided citations to published checklists and a number of URLs for web sites for major organizations and publishers associated with museums and museum studies and stated that the checklists and publication catalogs can help you make your own benchmarks. When thinking about building or enhancing your library's collection Caswell proposed that one ask whether the institution will strive to own part or all of the publications listed in a certain bibliography or combination of bibliographies and whether you will compare your holdings with those of other institutions offering similar degree programs.

Next, Sarah E. McCleskey, Architecture Librarian from Clemson University, discussed the approach she used to identify titles and calculate the annual cost of

supporting collection development for a newly established Master in Real Estate Development program. First, McCleskey set qualitative and quantitative benchmarks by looking at the holdings of both an institution that had a well-established program and one that was not as well established. After identifying the institutions she would use to benchmark for her analysis, McCleskey did keyword searches and currency comparisons on their respective holdings. A variety of terms were used based on input she solicited from Clemson faculty developing the program and she evaluated her results by quantity of titles and their date of publication. McCleskey estimated that approximately 90 new titles per year would need to be added to the collection in order to support the program thus resulting in the need to annually allocate approximately \$5400 to this end.

The University of Texas at Austin's Architecture Librarian Janine Henri explained accreditation standards and the benefits of using these standards to assess your library's holdings vis-à-vis your department's needs. Henri noted that accreditation is important to various professions who rely on a graduate pool who will help uphold professional standards. In addition, accredited programs have access to federal funds, it is easier to transfer among accredited institutions and accreditation engenders employer confidence in programs and their graduates. Henri outlined the accreditation cycle. First, accrediting agencies set standards. Institutions may take these standards to initiate a self-study using the agencies' criteria. Next accreditation agencies, at the invitation of the institution, assess the institution's program and finally the institution can respond to the assessment before the results are published. Finally, the institution has the opportunity to respond to deficiencies between visits. Henri spoke about the general principles of accreditation for libraries. Specifically, it is important that the institution's collections meet the needs of the programs, which will vary from one institution to another. Therefore, collections should reflect differences and directly connect to the mission and goals of the program the collection is supporting. Also, the institution's area of excellence needs to be identified and you must collect aggressively to support said area. Attention should be paid to the currency, breadth and types of material in the collection in addition to the quantity of material because quantity has a direct effect on overall availability. When reviewing accreditation standards, it is important to look at the sections dealing with curricula in order to figure out what to collect. Henri noted that working directly with faculty in the department to help determine collection areas is helpful as well. For additional information about this topic please see the recently published ARLIS/NA Occasional Paper No. 14: The Library and the Accreditation Process in Design Disciplines: Best Practices by Jeanne M. Brown, Paul Glassman & Janine J. Henri. This is a practical guide for any professional participating in self-studies for accreditation applications. Topics addressed include standards, the role of the librarian in the accreditation visit, and approaches to reporting on areas such as governance, collections, and finance. Selected complete self-studies are included (ISBN 0-942740-20-3). This may be ordered online from [ARLIS/NA](#).

The session's final presenter, Ann Lindell, from The University of Florida's Architecture & Fine Arts Library, discussed the "Collection Checkup: Using the Data You've Already Got." Lindell suggested that even a small analysis project can yield very useful and surprising results with implications for collection management and services like reference and instruction. Looking at use statistics such as course reserves, interlibrary loan and circulation statistics in addition to citation analysis of graduate projects, theses, dissertations, faculty and staff

publications and any other relevant student work provides a rich collection of information for analysis. Lindell shared results from her 2003 survey of building construction masters degree projects. Her preliminary findings showed heavy use of conference proceedings, standards, codes and professional documents such as AGC and AIA. With few exceptions, bibliographies tended to be very one dimensional weighted primarily towards one format, for example just monographs or only journal articles. Many projects cited personal interviews and or notes from professional workshops; based on the uneven, and at times unclear, citation style Lindell concluded that students would benefit from instruction in this area. Additionally, she found that 27 construction titles her library subscribes to were not cited in the master's projects amounting to a little less than \$5,000 in subscription costs.

Submitted by Elizabeth Schaub

### **St. Louis Cemetery #1 Tour**

Our guide, James Besse of Save Our Cemeteries, is a New Orleans native who sprinkled his talk with interesting tidbits of history. He began the tour by telling us that in New Orleans, death is a continuation of life, and when someone dies, their life is celebrated by their loved ones. Funerals aren't sad occasions, because you know that person isn't really gone.

James pointed out some of the restoration that is being done by both Save Our Cemeteries and Friends of New Orleans Cemeteries. Many of the tombs showed deterioration of the soft bricks, which were made from limestone and river sand. Modern mortar is not compatible with the old materials and cannot be used for patching. He mentioned that many of the tombs were originally painted different colors, and not just gray or white.

The tomb of a young girl who died from yellow fever, which had a lovely sculpture of the girl on top, was our first stop. Some of the highlights of our tour included the tombs of well-known people, some infamous for their colorful lives. James shared stories about various ones. There was a large tomb for troops who died in the Battle of New Orleans, the Italia tomb that was made famous in the movie "Easy Rider," and the tomb of the famous voodoo queen Marie Laveaux. The presence of three X's on some of the tombs was evidence of recent voodoo activity in the cemetery, and Ms. Laveaux's tomb showed a lot of voodoo activity.

As we walked around, James referred to the tombs as condos. Most are "two bedroom condos"—the top is for the recently deceased, and after a year, their remains are moved "downstairs" to the cabeau, or holding area. This way, the tombs can be reused. Also, there were large group tombs. These were established by groups of immigrants, because the individuals did not have the funds to obtain a private family tomb, which were quite expensive. Christians and Jews were not buried in the same cemetery; however, at the back of the cemetery, there was a separate section with Jewish graves.

After the tour, the group walked back to the Quarter together and James regaled us with stories about events that took place in some of the buildings we passed, as well as famous people, including Richard Simmons, who was originally from New Orleans. The tour was a lot of fun, and Mr. Besse was very entertaining.

Submitted by Beverly Carver

.....

### ► LOIS SWAN JONES PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD

The membership voted at this year's business meeting to set the travel award at \$750, which will assist one person's travel to the 2004 ARLIS/NA conference in New York. The Lois Swan Jones Award honors Professor Jones, Emerita at the University of North Texas, by underwriting participation of Texas-Mexico chapter members at the national meeting. While first-time conference attendees are especially encouraged, the award committee urges everyone with interest and need to apply. The chief request is that applicants not have full institutional funding. Previous winners are eligible. A description of the award, procedures for applying, and a list of previous recipients resides on the chapter [Web site](#). The deadline for applications to arrive is January 10, 2004, and the winner will be announced on January 20. Questions or concerns should go to the committee members: Meriann Bidgood, Mark Pompelia, or John Hagood. Conference program and registration information has been posted at the [ARLIS/NA Web site](#). ARLIS/Texas-Mexico sends strong representation in every sense to national conferences. Join your Texas/Mexico colleagues in New York, and take advantage of the Chapter members' generous offer of financial support.

Submitted by the Lois Swan Jones Award Committee:  
John Hagood, Mark Pompelia, Merriann Bidgood

### ► EXHIBITIONS IN TEXAS AND MEXICO

Please note that you can now view the [exhibition list](#) from the home page of our Web site, courtesy of Sam Duncan and Phil Heagy.

### ► Column Editors

Academic Libraries	Brandon Pope	<a href="mailto:bpope@mail.smu.edu">bpope@mail.smu.edu</a>
Architecture Libraries	Janine Henri	<a href="mailto:jhenri@mail.utexas.edu">jhenri@mail.utexas.edu</a>
Museum Libraries	Mary Leonard	<a href="mailto:mleonard@DallasMuseumofArt.org">mleonard@DallasMuseumofArt.org</a>
Public Libraries	Gwen Dixie	<a href="mailto:gdixie@dallaslibrary.org">gdixie@dallaslibrary.org</a>
Visual Resources	Jacqui Allen	<a href="mailto:jallen@DallasMuseumofArt.org">jallen@DallasMuseumofArt.org</a>

### ► Colophon

Editor:  
Mary Leonard  
Librarian  
Dallas Museum of Art  
1717 N. Harwood  
Dallas, TX 75201  
office: 214-922-1277  
fax: 214-954-0174  
[mleonard@dallasmuseumofart.org](mailto:mleonard@dallasmuseumofart.org)

Subscriptions:  
Beverly Carver  
Architecture and Fine Arts Library Manager  
University of Texas at Arlington  
Architecture and Fine Arts Library  
P.O. Box 19497  
Arlington, TX 76019-0497  
office: 817-272-3225

fax: 817-272-5067  
[bcarver@uta.edu](mailto:bcarver@uta.edu)