Welcome to *The Medium*, the semi-annual newsletter of the ARLIS/NA Texas-Mexico Chapter. The Spring 2021 issue (v. 47, no. 1) contains the approved minutes from the Annual Chapter Meeting held virtually in Fall 2020 and articles about professional activities from our chapter members.
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Greetings ARLIS/NA Texas-Mexico Chapter Members and Friends,

It has now been a year and two months since many of us began to work from home due to Covid-19. Covid is still here but vaccines began to be administered in late winter and spring. As of May 19th, according to Reuters Covid-19 Global Tracker 48.2% of the population of the U.S., and 12.2% of Mexico has received the first dose of the vaccine. While 30% of U.S. adults are reluctant to become vaccinated and we may never reach a vaccination level that would ensure that Covid-19 disappears from the population, the numbers of new infections are declining. Most cultural and academic institutions are now making plans for a return to in-person work, classes, and events in fall 2021.

Our 49th Annual ARLIS/NA conference that was to be held in Montreal took place virtually on May 11th – 13th. Chapter meetings were scheduled two weeks before the conference during the week of April 26th – 30th and most division, section and special interest group meetings took place the week of May 3rd - 7th.

Our Lois Swan Jones Professional Development Award recipients this year are Kathleen Alleman, Assistant Librarian at the Mayer Library at the Dallas Art Museum, and Sarah de la Rosa, graduate student in Library Science at Texas Woman’s University. Each received $150 for conference registration. Many thanks to the Lois Swan Jones Professional Development Award Committee members: Lauren Gottlieb-Miller (Chair), Shari Salisbury, and Sam Duncan.

Our Chapter’s 501(3)c non-profit tax-exempt status was reinstated in January 2021 and backdated to April 23, 2020, and our 990-N tax form has been filed earlier this year. Special thanks to past Presidents Jenny Stone (2020), and Sunyoung Park (2019), and Past Treasurer Hillary Veeder for their work to get our status reinstated. Thank you also to current Treasurer Quentin Pace for filing this year’s taxes.

Now that our non-profit tax-exempt status is reinstated, we are thrilled to accept donations to the Lois Swan Jones Professional Development Award. In addition, donations to this award will be matched up to $500 by The Janine Henri/Lois Swan Jones Challenge through June 30th. Janine Henri was an ARLIS/NA Texas-Mexico member from 1991-2007, and recently retired UCLA Architecture and Design Librarian, and member of the Southern California Chapter. This generous gift from Janine could not have been timelier. Thank you Janine.

Janine wrote “Thank you from the bottom of my heart to everyone in the Chapter for being such great mentors and colleagues, and for encouraging me along my career. The LSJ award played an important part in this encouragement.”

During our spring business meeting, the chapter discussed student and friend categories that do not require ARLIS/NA membership. It does not appear that the Chapter is ready for membership categories that do not require ARLIS/NA membership at this time, especially since non-ARLIS/NA
members cannot vote or hold office in the Chapter or in ARLIS/NA as governed by ARLIS/NA bylaw Article XIV, Chapters, Section 5. We will investigate other initiatives to increase student membership such as outreach and marketing efforts, and possibly sponsorship.

The Mexico City 2023 Conference Planning Committee members have been meeting regularly and are making a lot of great plans for an exciting and memorable annual conference. If you would like to join this effort, just watch for meeting invitations and announcements on the Texas-Mexico Listserv.

The Fall Chapter Conference Planning Committee will meet in mid-June to begin to plan the fall meeting. The committee will send a survey to the membership to ascertain if we should meet in-person, virtually, or a hybrid model. There is still so much that is unknown at this time and we will know more as we near the fall. We hope you will join us wherever we meet.

Rebecca Barham
President, ARLIS/NA Texas-Mexico Chapter
Art, Dance, and Theatre Librarian, University of North Texas Libraries

Bibliography

ARLIS/NA Texas-Mexico Chapter Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 13, 2020, 10:30 a.m – 11:30 a.m.
Venue: Zoom Video Conference

Minutes taken by Secretary Helen Lueders.

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

Chapter President Jenny Stone calls the meeting to order at 10:32 am.

II. Welcome and Introductions (Jenny Stone)

Jenny welcomes everyone to the meeting. To begin, Jenny reminds attendees that the meeting is being recorded so that chapter secretary Helen Lueders may take minutes more accurately.

Jenny goes over some of the Zoom features that will be used today. Everyone is muted upon entering the meeting, but can unmute to comment or to make or second motions during the meeting. The chat feature is also enabled and will be monitored by chapter treasurer Hillary Veeder. Jenny reminds attendees how to vote on motions via Zoom, which is the same way as the Spring meeting - access the chat window and vote yes by clicking the green circle and no by clicking the red “x.”

Rather than introductions or a sign in sheet, please go to the chat window and record your name and institutional affiliation, if you have one. Helen will collect these as a record of meeting attendance.

Lauren Gottlieb-Miller, Menil Collection
Kate Alleman, Dallas Museum of Art
Jacqueline Allen, Dallas Museum of Art
Rebecca Barham, University of North Texas
Helen Lueders, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Mark Pompelia, Rhode Island School of Design
Carla Ellard, Texas State University
Caroline Clavell, Amon Carter Museum
Norman Howden, Dallas College
Jon Evans, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Quentin Pace, University of Houston – Downtown
Shari Salisbury, University of Texas at San Antonio
Alison Larson, Baylor University
Sunyoung Park, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Sha Towers, Baylor University
Hillary Veeder, Texas Tech University
Rebekah Scoggins, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Beverly Mitchell, Southern Methodist University
III. Approval of Minutes from April 2020 Zoom Meeting (Jenny Stone)

Jenny begins by calling for the approval of the Spring 2020 meeting minutes, as sent out by Helen via the listserv for corrections.

Kate Alleman motions to approve the minutes; Lauren Gottlieb-Miller seconds to approve the minutes.

Jenny requests a vote and the motion carries.

IV. Chapter Officer Reports

A. President’s Report (Jenny Stone)

By Rebecca’s account, 60 people are registered for this meeting. Last night’s happy hour was well attended by new and familiar faces, thank you to the Planning Committee (Rebecca Barham, Kate Alleman, and Jacqueline Allen) for their contributions and assistance in putting together this virtual conference.

The chapter filled the archivist position this summer. Jenny thanks Katy Parker for serving as the chapter’s first archivist. The executive committee met with Katy in July to clarify and review the position as well as identify the archival procedures for each executive position.

Jenny gives thanks and recognition to past-president Sunyoung Park for identifying the need for an archivist, developing and describing the position, as well as amending the by-laws to reflect the new position and pave the way for Katy. All physical items are in Katy’s possession and will be sent to the ARLIS/NA location.

Jenny submitted the mid-year report in October 2020. There was a new item on the report related to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives, so she highlighted the work that Sarah Stanhope and Fernando Corona have done in translating the ARLIS/NA Code of Conduct and Conference Manual into Spanish. She brings up that we have been interested in translating the website as well as chapter documentation, and wanted to bring it up with the chapter for further conversation on goals for future activity related to that.

Jenny provides an update on the chapter’s tax exemption reinstatement, noting that there were significant delays over the summer regarding the review of the application. Jenny submitted the application in April, but it was not reviewed until October. In late October, the IRS contacted Jenny to request some additional information related to chapter grants and foreign business (related to the fact that the chapter has operations in Mexico). She is hopeful these forms will be completed and have the status reinstated by the end of the year.
Jenny closes by saying that it has been a privilege to serve the chapter as president, thanking everyone for their support and especially the rest of the executive committee. She acknowledges that Hillary and Helen are rolling off their positions as treasurer and secretary, and thanks them for their time on the board, which has had its unique challenges.

B. Vice-President’s Report (Rebecca Barham)

Rebecca thanks everyone for submissions to the Spring 2020 *Medium* issue, and she now makes a call for the next issue of the medium (Fall 2020). Usually these submissions include chapter activities, news, special reports, etc., but she also encourages chapter members to think openly about what they might want to submit. She asks that submissions be sent to her by December 1, 2020.

C. Treasurer’s Report (Hillary Veeder)

Hillary reports that our total chapter assets sit at $1,964.39, which includes the balance in the Wells Fargo account where the bulk of the monies reside ($1,878.50) and a small balance in the Paypal account ($85.89).

In May 2020, we received the second check from ARLIS/NA headquarters which included our membership dues payments of $220. We also had a withdrawal of $600 for the IRS 1023 application cost. We have also received a few payments for membership via Paypal.

Hillary’s current tally lists 34 members, so far having received one payment for 2021 membership. We are currently waiting to see how the new management company for ARLIS/NA will handle the dual membership payment of dues.

For a more detailed account of the chapter’s finances, see full Treasurer’s Report appended to the minutes (Appendix A).

D. Secretary’s Report (Helen Lueders)

Helen reports that, as usual, she will compile the minutes from this meeting and send them to the executive committee for correction. The new chapter Secretary, Kate Alleman, will send minutes to the rest of the chapter via listserv for final corrections shortly before the Spring 2021 meeting.

V. Lois Swan Jones Award Committee Report (Lauren Gottlieb-Miller)

Lauren reports that following the cancellation of the ARLIS/NA 2020 Conference in St. Louis, the award recipient voided the 2020 LSJ award check for $500. The 2020 recipient, Lauren Haberstock, will have the option to receive the award in 2021 if they are attending the ARLIS/NA Conference in Montreal.

In the spring meeting, the committee indicated that, depending on finances, we may be able to offer an additional award for 2021, and hopes to open that up for discussion today.
Given that the Montreal conference is set for mid-May, we can comfortably wait until early 2021 to put out a call for applicants. In the event that the Montreal conference is moved to a virtual conference, all of this may need to be reconsidered.

Lauren wants to thank the current committee: Shari Salisbury, Sam Duncan, and herself. If anyone is interested in becoming involved with the LSJ committee, contact Lauren, they would love to have you.

VI.  **Nominating Committee Report & Election of New Officers** (Sunyoung Park)

Sunyoung reminds us that the nominating committee is composed of the past two presidents, Eric Wolf and herself.

She thanks everyone who sent in nominations to put together a great slate of new candidates for 2021. They shared the candidates via listserv a few weeks before the meeting but wanted to announce them at the meeting as well.

Vice-President/President Elect - Helen Lueders, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Treasurer - Quentin Pace, University of Houston - Downtown
Secretary - Kate Alleman, Dallas Museum of Art

Sunyoung opens the floor for other nominations, none are presented, so Sunyoung asks for a motion to approve the current slate of candidates.

Jenny Stone motions to approve the current slate, and Beverly Mitchell seconds. After a vote, the motion carries.

VII.  **Conference Donation – ARLIS/NA** (Jenny Stone)

Jenny reports that our donation for the 2020 conference was donated to the conference relief fund. At this point, there is still a conference planned in 2021, but we do not know whether this will be in-person or virtual.

Mark Pompelia states that the new management company for ARLIS/NA began its contract on November 1st and will begin by working with hotel engagements in Montreal to determine what the commitments may be, but as of yet, he doesn’t know the outcome of that conversation. The board is doing its mid-year meeting in three parts, the first was the week before this meeting and the next two follow after, so he will know more soon.

Jenny asks if we want to go ahead and decide on an amount for the chapter to donate to the conference. The chapter donated $100 to the St. Louis Conference in 2020 (that ended up being virtual). Even if the conference is virtual, they will need funding for a more robust online presence (given that they will have had more time to plan for 2021).

Jenny motions to set aside $100 for 2021. Kate Alleman seconds the motion, and after a vote, the motion passes and $100 will be set aside for the 2021 ARLIS/NA conference.

VIII.  **Chapter Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Priorities and Goals** (Jenny Stone)

Jenny attended the ARLIS/NA leadership meeting in September, and reported that a good portion of time was focused on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), specifically chapter activity in
regards to DEI. For this meeting, Jenny wanted to pose to membership how to approach DEI work on a sustained level.

Jenny notes that at the leadership meeting, someone from the New York chapter said something about asking what would be the most useful and productive actions a chapter could take to promote and lift the field in a larger way, and there was a lot of discussion about financial barriers especially in relation to membership fees but also in terms of transparency related to salaries for positions posted to the listserv.

ARLIS/NA amended its bylaws (Article 14, Section 5) to indicate that chapters can establish membership categories that do not require membership to ARLIS/NA. Right now, our chapter’s bylaws do require ARLIS/NA membership so we would need to amend our bylaws to change this. Jenny states that she believes this would be a great way to encourage inclusivity by removing financial barriers to chapter membership, since society level membership is considerably more expensive. This could be a way to allow people without institutional support to be involved and connect with colleagues on a local/regional level.

Jenny states that the meeting also discussed chapters in which bilingual materials would be beneficial for its members (on websites, but also meetings and listserv content). She opens the discussion up to the group.

Helen and Jacqueline both express support for the chapter membership being made available independently of a society-level membership, to reach a broader array of potential members, including library school and art history students.

Jacqueline asks for clarification of the history of chapter/society membership as she seems to remember a time when chapter-only membership was an option.

Jon Evans remembers the change to requiring society-level membership with chapter membership as being tied to some legal obligations, and it being a somewhat sudden change. He supports the shift back to chapter-only membership, which allows people to participate without taking on such a heavy financial commitment. Eric Wolf also remembers this change, which he did not support at the time, but clarifies that it was about liability at chapter events with non-society-level members. He asks Mark if he knows what has changed to allow us to reverse this requirement but is also in favor of this change.

Mark states that it was a concern about an injury at a meeting, but since the person was not a full member of the society, they did not have the insurance protections the society-level membership confers on its members. He states that it does seem that they have found a way around this and is happy to follow up to find out more.

Sunyoung brings up the idea of a “friends” membership level that does not include voting rights. To that, Jon suggests creating parameters but not limiting voting to members who have ARLIS/NA memberships, if we can get around it.

Jenny believes that the chapter membership would include voting rights within the chapter but does not include voting rights in society-level matters or other ARLIS/NA benefits. She reminds us of our current levels (individual, student, retiree, and international) and asks us to think about how this new category might be structured.

Katy Parker speaks up about the importance of letting students join without needing to join ARLIS/NA. Speaking from experience, she states that with an undergraduate degree in art history, she was drawn to art libraries. She joined the Southeast chapter and found it invaluable to creating
her career pathway (helped her make connections that ended up getting her a job, for example) but notes that costs are prohibitive to join national for many students.

Jenny asks if we should make a new category for members who are chapter only members. Jacqueline suggests just clarifying on the website that whatever membership category you choose does not require society-level membership, and Jenny agrees this could work.

Sunyoung says that we need to get clarification from national about how to proceed, since it may relate to tax exemption status and liability, especially given our issues with reinstatement through the IRS.

Karen Sigler suggests the possibility of an introductory/trial period for potential members for whom even $10 might be a deterrent, but of course this depends on what ARLIS/NA determines in general.

Sunyoung says we could open our meetings beyond members to let people see what we are doing and be involved in some capacity, if possible. Jenny states that in that case, your membership dues go to supporting the life of the chapter (award funds, meetings, etc.).

Jacqueline asks what the requirements are for the Lois Swan Jones award, which might be affected by this. Sheri Salisbury looks up the requirements: right now the award includes membership in the chapter for the year, but requires society-level membership, so this may be something to figure out going forward.

Jenny brings up the idea of some chapters using the awards as a means of subsidizing leadership position attendance at conferences. Jacqueline asks if you have to be a society-level member to be on the executive board; currently the answer is yes since chapter membership requires society-level membership. Kate Alleman also notes that when you are on the executive committee, you are usually expected (if not required) to attend the conference and the business meeting.

Jenny states that there are several aspects we will want to address going forward; she will follow up via listserv with what ARLIS/NA chapter liaison says on the subject. That email has been appended at the end of the minutes (Appendix B.).

Once we know more, since this issue does require a change to the by-laws, we may want to vote on it before the Spring 2021 meeting. Rebecca Barham said we could have a special meeting over Zoom or Kate suggests a form via listserv. Eric says either option (an extraordinary meeting or an email vote) is appropriate and acceptable so long as it is announced properly and in advance.

**IX. Future Chapter Meeting Location** (Jenny Stone)

Jenny wonders if we should even start thinking about this right now. She suggests we all think about it and can make a more firm decision at the meeting in the spring.

Beverly Mitchell says that should be fine, since most of the planning happens over the summer for a fall meeting, so we make sure to put that on the slate for the next agenda.

**X. Mexico City 2023 Conference Update** (Jon Evans)

Jon provides some overview on the state of the Mexico City conference and its planning. It’s only been a year since we put forth the proposal for the 2023 conference, but we’ve made so much progress. The co-chairs have been recruited (Gabrielle Reed, Lauren Gottlieb-Miller, Fernando
Corona and Jon Evans) as well as 23 members who are involved in various capacities with the planning already, with special help from Mark Pompelia. He’s very proud of the work that’s been done thus far.

They have conducted four planning meetings for the whole group, and five or six for the co-chairs or smaller groups.

The planning committee is using Google Drive for materials since it has more maneuverability than some of the standard platform options used by ARLIS/NA in the past (such as Base Camp). They had reached out to past conference planners, who had used a variety of platforms.

The committee continues to tweak and revise the planning timeline, which is ahead of schedule; now waiting for a few things to happen at a society-wide level, especially related to the new management company who will manage the hotel negotiations. They also wait to see how Montreal’s conference develops and what form it takes (all virtual, blended, or in-person).

Sarah and Fernando have translated the conference planning materials, which is a big accomplishment for the society, and Jon is proud that the Texas-Mexico chapter is taking the lead on accessibility.

Lauren and Gabrielle have decided on a conference theme of transformation/transformación and have begun work on the graphics and branding related to that.

Jon, Mark and Fernando are working on increasing engagement with Mexican libraries. Fernando has a large number of contacts, so he is very hopeful to increase participation with local organizations/institutions. He notes that Catalina Pérez, from Universidad Nacional Autônoma de México is on the Zoom, and he hopes she will be able to help with conference planning as well.

Mark says dates and hotel information for the 2022 conference in Chicago have not been set yet, but that once they are, the management firm will begin work on the Mexico City conference and that they do have experience with international conference planning.

XI. New Business (All)

Jenny opens the meeting to any new business that we haven’t talked about yet.

Sam Duncan asks to tap the collective mind about a collaborative project with Wikipedia across the state as an ‘edit-a-thon’ between our institutions. Sam has done something like 15 edit-a- thons at the Amon Carter so he does have experience as well as access to a “Wikipedian-in-residence.” He thought this could be something to accomplish as a chapter virtually.

Jenny asks if he has a topic in mind, and Sam says, it would be art-related in general, or related to a specific collection within one’s institution. These edits might include minor edits/additions or creating a whole new entry, but he is particularly interested in the way one could include collection objects as illustrative material. He notes that they have done several edit-a- thons with Art and Feminism (an organization), which is great as they already has a lot of infrastructure including a cohesive dashboard, which allows management of participant activity/statistics and so on, and could allow it to be a longer event (maybe month-long, he suggests). Sam suggests expanding subject bibliographies could be a valuable endeavor as well.

Karen Sigler at Texas State has some experience, working on a project on Southwest writers (a yearlong project). Katy Parker at UT Austin says she could get students and faculty involved as well.
– she suggests that book artists is a topic that needs further development, and is a particular interest of Sha Towers.

Jenny suggests Sam gathers some information/examples to inform people about what edit-a-thons entail, to gauge interest, and to get the ball rolling on the project in general.

Before we adjourn, Rebecca suggests taking a screenshot of the Zoom to serve as a group photo.

XII. Adjournment

Jenny thanks everyone for attending and reminds them to attend the Research Roundtable at 1pm. The meeting is adjourned at 11:38.

Appendix A.

Texas-Mexico Chapter
Fall Meeting – Virtual
Treasurer Report
11.13.2020

Chapter Accounts

Wells Fargo Account

Current Balance as of November 13, 2020: $1,878.50. Account statements for January 2020 through October 2020 are included as an attachment.

Most recent account activity:

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>05.22.2020</td>
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<td>Membership dues from ARLIS/NA Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>06.16.2020</td>
<td>Withdrawal</td>
<td>IRS 1023 Application</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
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</table>

PayPal Account

Current balance as of November 13, 2020: Balance: $85.89.

Most recent account activity and all activity for 2020:

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>04.17.2020</td>
<td>Deposit</td>
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<td>$19.12</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Deposit</td>
<td>Dues Payment, US ($20)</td>
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</tr>
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<td>10.27.2020</td>
<td>Deposit</td>
<td>Dues Payment, Retiree ($10)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Chapter assets are: $1,964.39.

Membership

For the 2020 membership year, the Texas-Mexico Chapter had 34 members.

| Kathleen Alleman | Samuel Duncan | Hannah Marshall | Chia-Chun Shih |
One membership payment was received after October 1, 2020, our first 2021 membership payment.

Respectfully submitted,
Hillary Veeder, Treasurer

Appendix B.

Email from Jenny Stone updating members on the changes to the bylaws related to non-ARLIS/NA chapter membership category and liability

From: ARLIS/NA Texas-Mexico Chapter List <ARLISNA-TEXAS-MEXICO@LSV.ARLISNA.ORG> on behalf of Jenny Stone <0000004298303bb1-dmarc-request@LSV.ARLISNA.ORG>
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2020 9:36 AM
To: ARLISNA-TEXAS-MEXICO@LSV.ARLISNA.ORG <ARLISNA-TEXAS-MEXICO@LSV.ARLISNA.ORG>
Subject: Update: Chapter liability and the non-ARLIS/NA membership category

Hi everyone,

I’m following up on the questions that came up in the business meeting regarding chapter liability and the creation of a non-ARLIS/NA member category. The chapter is covered under ARLIS/NA’s general liability insurance. Anyone who attends our meetings is included in that coverage, regardless of which membership category they fall under.

Due to the change in ARLIS/NA bylaws regarding these new non-ARLIS/NA member categories, new chapter affiliation agreements will be rolled out soon. Stefanie Hilles, the chapter liaison, suggested we might want to wait to change our bylaws until then. (They are also updating the Chapter Success Manual, as sections of that are out of date now as well.)

In the meantime, we can still consider what a new chapter membership category might look like. For your reference, here are the chapter’s current membership levels (all require membership in ARLIS/NA):

- Resident of US $20 USD (new or renewal)
- Resident of Mexico $10 USD (new or renewal)
- Student $10 USD (new or renewal)
- Retiree $10 USD (new or renewal)

Have a good weekend,
Jenny
ARLIS/NA Texas-Mexico Chapter President
Lois Swan Jones Award Recipient Report

By Sarah de la Rosa

I would like to open my report with my gratitude towards the Lois Swan Jones committee and the ARLIS N/A Texas-Mexico chapter, who have allowed me the opportunity to attend the virtual ARLIS N/A 49th Annual Conference through this scholarship. As a recent MLS graduate, I cannot express enough how invaluable an opportunity such as this is to me, concerning my professional growth. The support I have experienced by the ARLIS Texas-Mexico chapter has remained unwavering since I joined back in 2019. I will summarize my conference highlights.

Pre-conference, I was able to partake in a resume workshop. In this session, we were paired with an art information professional, and in my case, one other student, where we evaluated each other’s resumes. I was paired with Kit Messick, the Manager of Special Collections Cataloging and Processing, of the Getty Research Institute. Kit offered sound advice to spruce up my resume, and this is crucial for me as a new graduate, as I am currently job hunting.

The opening keynote address started strong in my opinion. Dr. Charmaine Nelson opened the conference with her research regarding the effects of colonized archiving in Canada, and how that has promoted the erasure of slavery in Canada’s history. This topic is especially important to me, as I focused on bias in cataloging during my graduate studies. I am passionate about the social justice issues of librarianship and work both in my personal and professional life, to promote diversity, equity, and inclusivity.

My favorite session from the conference was Gathering Sounds: A Case Study of the Interdisciplinary Cultural Study of Sonic Environments, presented by Margaret English. Margaret’s deep knowledge and personal collection of musical sound art was impressive! I love how she combines her musical passions within her work. Much of her personal musical sound art collection is accessible in combination with the University of Toronto’s music sound art collection, which supports the university’s Soundscape Studies students.

Other sessions I really enjoyed, involved The Riot Grrrl Collection at NYU’s Fales Library and the historical importance concerning preserving zines and ephemera as a DIY time capsule. Kevin Talmer Whiteneir Jr.’s presentation Queer Heresies was stunning and magical. His research combines archival and art historical research with artmaking to create rituals of mythmaking,
cultural subversion, and heresy. Hannah Marshall’s presentation concerning the Chinati Foundation’s archives was inspiring, as she displayed her innovation concerning her work approach, dealing with time constraints to fulfill a grant project, during a pandemic. The results of her work provide equitable access online to the Chinati Foundation archives.

Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed my first ARLIS N/A annual conference. The expertise showcased through this conference, further encourages my desire to continue my involvement with special collections. The conference presenters helped me realize that wherever I end up working, I will be able to intersect my love for art, culture, equity, inclusion, and accessibility.
As a recipient of the Lois Swan Jones award, I was able to attend the ARLIS/NA 49th Annual Conference held virtually. I would like to share my gratitude to the Lois Swan Jones Award Committee and the Texas-Mexico Chapter for the financial and collegial support provided for this conference. Below are some thematic highlights of my conference experience.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Charmaine A. Nelson, set the tone for the conference. My main takeaway from her presentation besides the content of her research was the impact of gatekeeping - intentional or unintentional. This sentiment was echoed in the Diversity Forum: Accessibility in Art Libraries led by Cyree Jarelle Johnson and Shannon Finnegan. Through breakout sessions and experience sharing attendees explored ways the museum’s physical and virtual spaces exclude people with visible and invisible disabilities. While this type of gatekeeping may be unintentional, staff must actively engage with accessibility considerations to ensure inclusion is practiced to the fullest. Like many diversity practices, the work cannot be left up to one person or small group of people to successfully affect the institution as a whole.

One of my favorite presentations was in the session, Telling Stories with Library Data. William Blueher & Michael Cummings from the Metropolitan Museum of Art talked about their experience with taking numbers in Excel Spreadsheets to data visualizations created in Microsoft Power BI so the Library could better provide context for those numbers and more effectively advocate for themselves. I very much related to the technology hope cycle Michael shared. A trigger marks the beginning of a project leading to a peak of inflated expectations followed by a trough of disillusionment as challenges reveal themselves, but with hard work comes a slope of enlightenment and finally a sustainable plateau of productivity. This cycle could easily be called the after-conference hope cycle. The IT department at Dallas Museum of Art has been introducing new Microsoft products for staff use the past couple of years, so the Library may be able to utilize this software to enhance the display of our statistics.

While Mayer Library staff at the Dallas Museum of Art are still staggering schedules between work from home and work on site, donation processing has been a major theme during the pandemic.
work activity. I attended two presentations that dealt with donations and donor relations. As many speakers noted, there are no free donations. Having a gift policy, creating cost analysis templates, and listening to development staff are integral to identifying possible donation opportunities and effectively communicating with donors. I learned a lot from the specific examples and various types of donations shared by the presenters.

My favorite thing about attending ARLIS/NA conferences is hearing what others are doing and being exposed to new ideas and resources. What statistics do we need to collect and visualize to help library advocacy efforts? How can we infuse our daily practices with inclusive considerations to better serve our users? What are ways we can use wikidata or other linked open data to enhance research opportunities within museum and library collections? I often come away from conferences with more questions than solutions, but that is the invigorating part of plugging into the larger art library conversation.

As I reviewed my conference notes and debriefed with colleagues, I was reminded that these ideas don’t have much root if I don’t have a deep understanding of my own library’s collection and practices. That brings me to my last bit of gratitude. I am very thankful for Mayer Library’s Director of Libraries and Librarian, Jacqui Allen and Jenny Stone, for helping me process and prioritize ideas from conferences with what is possible considering our staff size, current projects, the master planning timeline, grant opportunities, and other resources. Thank you times a million!
ARLIS/NA Graphic Novels SIG Annual Meeting and Updates on the Notable Graphic Novels Review

By Tara Spies Smith

The ARLIS/NA Graphic Novels SIG annual meeting at the virtual 49th ARLIS/NA annual conference took place on May 4th from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM EDT. Saint Louis based cartoonist Sacha Mardou was the SIG’s special guest. Co-coordinators Caitlin McGurk and Tara Smith hosted the meeting and secured honorarium funding for Mardou. McGurk interviewed Mardou.

Mardou talked about her graphic novel, *Sky in Stereo*, and events in her life that influenced her art and writing for her graphic novel. She also discussed how Internal Family Systems Therapy played a big part in inspiring her comics and her life inextricably. It was more than a pleasure to have Mardou speak at the SIG’s meeting.

Other items on the meeting agenda that were discussed were a call for an additional co-coordinator for the SIG, the possibility of changing the name of the SIG to include comics and zines in the SIG title, and an update on the status of the annual ARLIS/NA *Notable Graphic Novels Review*.

The *Notable Graphic Novels Review* is an official annual ARLIS/NA review publication that contains ten, sometimes more, reviews of graphic novels published in the prior year. The top 10 graphic novels are selected by a call for nominations from ARLIS/NA members, which are then voted on by ARLIS/NA members. After the votes are tabulated, a call for reviewers goes out. Once the reviewers have been selected and the reviews are completed, the co-editors, Nicole Santiago and Tara Smith, will edit the reviews and create the new annual *Notable Graphic Novels Review* which should be completed and published on the ARLIS/NA website or the new ARLIS/NA Humanities Commons by September 2021.
In Winter 2019, both the Dallas Museum of Art’s Mildred R. and Frederick M. Mayer Library and Southern Methodist University’s Hamon Arts Library learned that they would be recipients of the late Dr. William B. Jordan and Dr. Robert Brownlee’s collections. The size, value, and subjects of these bequests enabled both libraries to collaborate on sharing some of these collections. The DMA bequest coincided with a gift to the Museum from the estate of Mr. Brownlee and his husband William B. Jordan that included over 80 artworks, an endowment to establish a Works on Paper Department, and the creation of a new curatorial position. Mr. Brownlee, a designer, had been a long-time friend and patron of the Mayer Library. The bequest included approximately 1,200 books in excellent condition on the history of interior design and decorative art. Processing will begin this summer.

All titles added to the Mayer Library collection will have a gift note in the catalog record. During processing, Mayer Library will use Zotero, a reference tool for organizing and managing bibliographic data, to create a list of duplicate titles to share with the Hamon library. Since the gift was unrestricted, all titles remaining after Hamon’s selections will be sold in a staff book sale or consigned, the proceeds of which will go towards future library acquisitions.

The Hamon Arts Library received approximately 7,000 books, journals, and ephemera from the Jordan and Brownlee estate. Dr. Jordan’s collection is largely comprised of titles on Spanish art and other European art from the seventeenth to the twentieth century, as well as modern and contemporary American art. It includes many global exhibition catalogues and several rare eighteenth- and nineteenth-century titles on Spanish art and architecture. The collection will support the Meadows Museum, the art and art history departments at the University, and the scholarly community. Book titles in the SMU Libraries catalog include a gift note for Dr. Jordan. An esteemed scholar and author on Spanish art, Dr. Jordan was the former chair of the fine arts department in the University’s Meadows School of the Arts, and founding director of the Meadows Museum in 1967. During his fourteen-year tenure at the Museum, he built the core collection of Spanish art before becoming the Deputy Director of the Kimbell Art Museum in 1981. At the DMA,
Jordan served as Adjunct Curator of European Painting, 1977-1982. He was also the 1986 recipient of the Mayer Library Vasari Award, and served on its selection committee in 1985 and 1987. A curator of numerous exhibitions, he headed a committee for *El Greco of Toledo*, exhibited in 1982 at the DMA, Prado Museum, and National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC.

As the two libraries began their collaboration, SMU librarians created a shared spreadsheet of duplicate titles from the Jordan collection for review by the DMA librarians, who visited the Hamon Library seven times between December 2019 and May 2021 for selection. Criteria focused on catalogues raisonnés, artist monographs, and exhibition catalogues with a subject emphasis on works on paper and European and Modern art. In addition to the auction and dealer catalogs in the Jordan collection accepted during the packing of the Brownlee library, approximately 450 titles were transferred from Hamon to the Mayer Library. The acquisition of these shared materials will support curatorial research on the artworks donated to the Dallas Museum of Art and, in particular, the upcoming exhibition *Point, Line, Plane: The William Jordan and Robert Brownlee Bequest* to be held at the DMA from September 26, 2021 to January 9, 2022.
Alkek Library Zine Collection & Virtual Spring Zine Workshop

By Tara Spies Smith

The **Alkek Library Zine collection** was created in 2019 and consists of approximately 235 zines made by local area zine makers, artists, Texas State students, faculty, and alumni. The collection is located in the secured collections area on the third floor of Alkek library behind the checkout desk. The display for the Zine Collection consists of a metal clothes rack with red media bags hanging from it with facsimiles of the front and back covers of the zines in the red bags. This makes the zines more accessible, allows patrons to browse, and draws attention to the collection.

Patrons can take the red bags to the checkout desk and checkout staff will get the actual zine from secured collections to give to the patron. Keeping the actual zines in the secured collections behind the checkout desk protects the delicate and handmade zines, which often contain original artwork.

There is also an old electric typewriter near the Zine Collection and Graphic Novel Collection. Anyone can use the typewriter to make text or for texture for their zines. The typewriter has been
used by students at some of the in-person zine workshops that the Alkek Library Maker Day Team has hosted. On the table with the typewriter there are zines I made that have information about the Zine Collection, how to find zines at Alkek Library, the Zines Research Guide, zine libraries, zine fests, and how to make zines.

Most of the Zine workshops have taken place in Alkek Library with students and staff as the main attendees. The workshop typically consists of a brief explanation of zines and where to find them in the library and in the library catalog. I also discuss the Zine Collection, display zines from the collection, and give a demo on how to make zines!

This past April, the Alkek Library Maker Day Team hosted and promoted a virtual zine workshop to faculty and students in conjunction with co-host alumni artists and archivist zine makers respectively, Elle Minter, Suzi Gonzales, and Jennifer Hecker. The workshop was promoted to the Texas State University community, the ARLIS/NA community, and local area communities including Austin, San Marcos, and San Antonio.
Hecker presented a brief introduction of the history of zines, as well as information about zine libraries and zine fests. I presented about the Zine Collection at Alkek Library, including its location in the library and the library catalog. Minter and Gonzales presented about the history of zines and zine fests, and then gave a demo on how to make different kinds of zines with prompts.

The workshop was a success with 17 attendees total including library staff from Alkek Library, Round Rock, ARLIS/NA members, and Art & Design students. The zine workshop recording was also used by an Art & Design faculty for her art foundations students for their final zine project and is linked in the respective module in their Canvas site. Anyone interested in seeing the recording of the zine workshop can contact Tara Smith at ts20@txstate.edu.

As the Art & Design Librarian, I have worked with several Art & Design faculty to add their students’ zines to the library’s collection. Each zine is cataloged and its back and front covers scanned for the catalog and the facsimile of the zine that goes in the red bag for the display on the third floor. The Digital Collections Librarian is creating a space in the Texas State Digital Repository for student artwork, including the Art and Design student zines. Their zines will be accessible on the World Wide Web with open access and statistics of who accesses them and from where in the world they are accessed.
The William J. Hill Texas Artisans and Artists Archive is a
freely-searchable online archive that documents the lives, work, and
products of Texas artisans and artists through 1900. Over 130,000
records are now live, and those records include resources from the
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston in addition to contributions from over
20 institutions and numerous private collections. Since 2018, the Hill
Archive team has been working with the Witte Museum to digitize
examples from their archives, material culture, and fine arts
collections. More than 1,100 records and objects are on the Hill
Archive, with more being added every month as we continue to research, identify, and digitize
various materials from their holdings.

Of particular interest are excerpts from the Witte’s Texas Artist Files, a continually growing
collection of vertical files that focus on artists working in Texas from its earliest times through the
present. The files were first created in 1927 by Eleanor Onderdonk and are now updated and
maintained by Witte curatorial and collections staff. Organized by artist name, the files contain
such materials as exhibition catalogs, photocopies of newspaper articles, copies of the San Antonio
Museum Association and the Witte Museum documents, curatorial correspondence, photographs,
photocopied primary resources, and other types of records on the artist's life and artwork. This
series documents thousands of Texas artists, and the Hill Archive team digitized excerpts of those
files documenting 19th century Texas artists.

For those interested in browsing all the materials digitized from the Witte Museum’s archives and
permanent collection, visit the Hill Archive’s “Partner” tab and follow the link provided to “view all
items from the Witte Museum in the Hill Archive”:

https://texasartisans.mfah.org/digital/custom/partners

To view just the Witte Museum’s Texas Artist Files excerpts:

Whereas certain ladies and gentlemen of the city of Dallas, Texas, have organized an Art Students League, and have perfected their organization by the election of a President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer, and whereas said Art Students League are desirous of obtaining the services of R. J. Onderdonk as their Instructor—

Now, therefore be it known that said Art Students League, through their President and Secretary, Parties of the first part and R. J. Onderdonk, Party of the second part, hereby enter into the following articles of agreement, to wit:

Paid R. J. Onderdonk, Party of the second part, here- by agrees to give said Art Students League, Parties of the first part, his services as Instructor from 9 o'clock a.m. to 1 o'clock p.m. each day, Sundays excepted; also two afternoons each week from 2 o'clock p.m. to 5 o'clock p.m. and two evenings each week from 8 o'clock p.m. to 10 o'clock p.m., the days of said afternoons and evenings' services to be determined by said Parties of the first part. The above services

Waxahachie Architectural Guidebook

By Margaret Culbertson

Margaret Culbertson is pleased to report that her book *Waxahachie Architecture Guidebook*, coauthored with Ellen Beasley, was published in January 2021. The book explores the exceptional architectural legacy of Waxahachie, Texas, beginning with the landmark Ellis County Courthouse designed by James Riely Gordon. It provides documentation and images of over 450 residential, commercial, and institutional buildings, both large and small, as well as background information on the individuals who designed, built, and owned them, thereby giving insight into not only the town’s architectural riches, but also its economic and social history. New documentation for many buildings was discovered through the use of original sources, including early newspapers, mechanics’ liens, and the period design books that were so popular locally and across the nation. Since many of the houses and other buildings represent types and styles built across the state, the documentation can serve as a resource to anyone studying the buildings and architecture of Texas.
Member News:  
Spotlight on Sha Towers

Sha Towers and co-author Ellen Filgo’s book, Liaison Engagement Success: A Practical Guide for Librarians (Rowman & Littlefield, 2021) hits shelves this June. On the publisher’s website you’ll also find (on the “features” tab), a number of great stories of engagement shared by colleagues (and a number of art librarians you might know!) that serve to supplement and enrich the book:


Sha was a panelist for ARLIS/NA 2021 Conference session on “Outreach in the time of COVID-19: How academic art libraries are pivoting their services to a virtual environment” (Thursday, May 13 at 11:10am)

https://arlisna49thannualconference2021.sched.com/event/2b2478061eec5553840ce8b1e6436a82/edit

Sha and two colleagues presented an accepted paper at ACRL 2021 on Identifying a Possible Suite of (alt)metrics for Arts Faculty.”
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