

ARLIS/NA MIDSTATES Newsletter

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 1 / Spring 2015

ARLIS/NA MIDSTATES CHAPTER OFFICERS

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Letter from the Chair

By Rebecca Price,
ARLIS/NA-Midstates
Chapter Chair, 2015

Dear ARLIS/NA-Midstaters!

I'm excited about the opportunity to write this newsletter piece and fill you in on our plans for the year. Many of us were able to meet together in Fort Worth and had a lively discussion about the coming year. We welcomed Janelle Rebel, a master's student in Visual and Critical Studies at the School of the Art Institute and recipient of the 2015 William C. Bunce Travel Award (see Janelle's travel award report on page 5). We also talked about ways to raise funds to support future recipients of the Bunce Award. The balance is below \$1,000 and unless we embark on significant fund-raising efforts, we will not be able to support chapter travel to the national conference into the future.

A very promising idea was put forward and that is to raise funds by offering local field trips to our chapter members (and other interested people). This idea will require that our members propose a field trip, make arrangements, and carry it out. There would be a charge for participating in the trip, which would both cover the expense of the trip plus provide a contribution for the Bunce Fund. Because of the dispersed nature of our chapter, we wouldn't all be able to participate in every trip; but I hope that we could perhaps have a couple trips in the Chicago area and perhaps one each in Michigan, Indiana, and Wisconsin/Iowa. This puts the idea on the table – please, if you have ideas about this sort of fund-raising or about a trip that you might organize or that you might like a Midstates colleague to organize, share your ideas on the listserv.

Another great way of adding to the Bunce Fund is simply to add an additional \$10 or \$20 when you renew your chapter membership. It's a small addition, but if we each could do that, together we can have a big impact. Send any personal contributions directly to our secretary/treasurer, Melanie Emerson.

We also talked about the Society's mentoring initiative. Katie Greer is spearheading our chapter's participation, so look for her emails. She put out a call for mentees and mentors just after the conference. It's a great program to get to know your colleagues, to bounce ideas around, and get valuable input. Contact Katie for more information or to participate!

Thanks to all who participated in the Silent Auction this year, and thanks especially to Alexis Burson, who gave us our 'hand-made' theme. With our

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chapter tote bag of hand-made items and other individual contributions we raised over \$250 for ARLIS/NA travel funds. Yay us!

If you have not done so already, please mark your calendars for our Fall meeting in Grand Rapids, Friday, Oct. 2 and Saturday, Oct. 3. We will meet Friday afternoon at the Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park for our business meeting and a tour. Saturday we'll spend the day exploring ArtPrize, a citywide arts competition and extravaganza. Book your hotel now!

Looking ahead – make plans for attending ARLIS/NA in Seattle next March! I think it'll be a great joint meeting with our VRA colleagues and Seattle will be a wonderful host city.

Finally, we have an exciting opportunity on our horizon. IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations) is meeting in Columbus, Ohio in August 2016. The meeting draws librarians from around the world. As I write this, plans are being set and it looks like there will be a pre-conference meeting in Chicago for arts librarians, August 9-11. Our Ohio Valley Chapter colleagues and we have been asked to help with arrangements of the Chicago meeting. Also meeting in Chicago are the Library Buildings and Equipment Group and the Rare Book and Special Collections Group, so there may be opportunities for shared events. More news about this will follow as we learn more. I think most of our work will come later this fall or early next spring, so Viveca, our incoming chair, and I will be working closely together to make the transition smooth and our contribution valuable.

Final reminder: Please renew your membership, if you have not done so yet. [The form](#) is linked from [our webpage](#). I'm looking forward to seeing you all in October in Grand Rapids!

Rebecca Price
Chair, ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter

New ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter Officers



Rebecca Price, Chapter Chair

Rebecca Price, Architecture, Urban Planning & Visual Resources Librarian and Liaison to Museum Studies at the University of Michigan, earned her master's in Information Science degree from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in 1998. Prior to that she

received her undergraduate degree from the College of William and Mary, a master's in Architectural History from the University of Virginia School of Architecture and a PhD in Art History from the University of Michigan. She has been active in ARLIS/NA, VRA, AASL and SEI serving on the ARLIS/NA Board in 2008-09, as well as various committees, divisions, sections, and interest groups. She was previously Midstates Chair in 2010. Her professional interests revolve around reference services and information and visual literacy. Rebecca has been in her position at the University of Michigan since 1998 where she has enjoyed working on several special projects related to the digitization and preservation of image resources, such as lantern slide collections and historical postcard collections.



Viveca Pattison Robichaud, Vice Chair/Chair Elect

Viveca Pattison Robichaud, Special Collections Librarian at the University of Notre Dame, received her bachelor's degree in Western Society and Culture and Art History from Concordia University in Montreal, Canada.

She also holds a Masters in Liberal Arts from the Johns Hopkins University where she focused her research and coursework on the Walters Art Museum collection and holds a MSLS from the Catholic University of America with a concentration in Cultural Heritage Information Management. Robichaud has been with Notre Dame since 2011 and currently splits her time between the Architecture Library and the Institute for Latino Studies' collections. An active ARLIS/NA member, Robichaud is serving as Awards Chair, and has also been both a member and chair of the Travel Awards Sub-Committee. She received the Midstates Bunce Travel Award in 2013 and in subsequent years has served as a member of the award committee. Robichaud is looking forward to working with fellow Midstates members and getting to know everyone better in person in Grand Rapids this fall.

Interview with Chapter Member Kitty Jansen



Kitty Jansen, ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter member and librarian at the Watanabe Family Library at the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art in Indianapolis, is retiring this year. Before she rides off into the sunset, Kitty graciously answered questions about her career as a museum librarian and her plans for retirement.

What made you want to become a librarian?

After I moved to the USA from the Netherlands, I got to browse the large multi-story stacks with the see-through metal grate floors of the Central Library in Indianapolis (in Europe library stacks were usually closed stacks), and it was fascinating to me that, after consulting the then card catalog, you were able to locate that one book that you wanted among all those thousands of books on the shelves. I guess I loved the idea of information being made accessible. Besides that, the fact that I was later on asked by the Vice President of the Eiteljorg, where I was at that point in time volunteering my skills as an Art

Historian, to "coordinate the libraries" was an incentive to go back to school and obtain a library science degree. I felt that as an art librarian I would be able to put my knowledge of art history to good use as well.

How did you become the librarian at the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art?

Once I had laid the foundation for the library at the Eiteljorg, with the help of other librarian volunteers, and once I got my library science degree, I was hired by the museum as the first librarian.

What is your favorite part of being the librarian at the Watanabe Family Library?

My favorite part of being the librarian at the Watanabe Family Library is all the artists, especially the Native American artists-in-residents and Indian Market artists, that you get to meet and host and forge friendships with. I also love the interactions with the docents (there is no separate docent library, and I taught their Native American pottery class every year). I also love working together with my volunteers who each have their own niche.

What were some of the memorable chapter meetings or ARLIS/NA conferences you've been to?

I loved our meeting in the Milwaukee Art Museum. What a beautiful building! But really, all the Chapter meetings and Conferences I went to (New York, Houston, Banff, Denver, Indianapolis, and Pasadena) were very inspirational, and I regretted not being able to participate in some because professional development funds were cut. I loved the hotel in Banff, and visiting the Huntington Gardens and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Pasadena.


What's the best advice you ever got from a fellow ARLIS/NA Midstates member?

The best advice I got was from Midstates member Ursula Kolmstetter, when I was her intern, namely to join ARLIS and its Midstates Chapter: these organizations constitute an enormous support system, especially when you are a beginning solo librarian, and are sources of an enormous body of experience and wonderful professional development opportunities. I will strongly advise my successor to join the organizations and their listservs as well.

What words of advice would you give new ARLIS/NA Midstates members?

I would recommend that new Midstates members would get active in both the Chapter and the national organization early on; it is a good way to forge friendships with colleagues nationwide.

What are your plans for retirement?

I am moving to Santa Fe with my husband, a town with a lot of museums that cover the same subject matter as the Eiteljorg. It might be most beneficial to volunteer in one or more of the museum libraries, and I plan to contact several of the librarians (active and retired!) there, that I got to know at the ARLIS conferences. I also plan to get involved with the group of retired ARLIS members who have started to organize themselves recently, and I hope to be able to attend the ARLIS conferences, although we plan to spend five months of the year in our condo in Amsterdam, close to our children and grandchildren. 

ARLIS/NA Midstates at the Annual Conference

Reports from some of the ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter members on their activities at the annual ARLIS/NA conference, which took place in Fort Worth, Texas, March 19-23, 2015.

Urban Planning Session

Submitted by Rebecca Price

With ARLIS/NA Urban Planning SIG colleagues, Marsha Taichman (Cornell) and Kathy Edwards (Clemson), I helped organize a session about urban planning issues particularly affecting Fort Worth, Texas. We were fortunate to have our invitations to the former dean of the UT Arlington School of Urban and Public Affairs and two officials from the Fort Worth Planning Department accepted. With Fort Worth as our case study, they enlightened us about new initiatives of urban redevelopment, data-driven city services and development, and issues on the horizon that our students will face as they become city planners. We also heard from the GIS librarian from Texas A&M about GIS resources that help interpret data and create maps and visualizations.

Moving the Needle: Advancing the Profession Through Publishing

Submitted by Terrie Wilson

At the Fort Worth conference, I participated in a lightning round of speakers, covering various issues under the umbrella topic of "Crossing the Publishing Frontier: Writing Opportunities in Art Librarianship." My focus was the book review and its place in scholarly publication. As the co-editor of the *ARLIS/NA Reviews*, I gave an overview of the reviews process that my co-editor, Doug Litts, and I use, and I offered tips on how to get involved in writing reviews. I also spoke about the book review and its place in publication, suggesting that it be considered a beginning or supplementary form of publication, particularly for academic librarians in the tenure or continuing appointment process. Other editors and writers were on the panel, including Judy Dyki, editor of *Art Documentation*, and the *Multimedia and Technology Reviews* editor, Hannah Bennett. Coupled with a separate presentation by Eric Wolf on "Art Librarians as Scholars," the session was packed with an abundance of wonderful information and tips on publishing in our field.



The SPQR-ND poster at the ARLIS/NA conference.

SPQR-ND at ARLIS/NA in Fort Worth: Reflections from the Emerging Technologies Forum

Submitted by Viveca Pattison Robichaud

This past March the Architecture Library released an iPhone version of our iPad application *SPQR-ND: Interpreting the Roman Forum Through Early Architectural Publications*. In anticipation of this release, as well as to promote the iPad application, I presented the SPQR-ND app in the Emerging Technologies Forum as part of Poster 2.0 (ARLISpalooza) at the ARLIS/NA Annual Conference in Fort Worth, Texas. This session was an informal way to present the application to librarians near and far. By demonstrating its features and possible uses on a one-on-one basis I was able to get immediate feedback from the audience.

SPQR-ND was developed by the Architecture Library, the School of Architecture, and the Center for Digital Scholarship at the University of Notre Dame. The Architecture Library at Notre Dame houses many rare and important publications that document the historic center of Rome and contain plans, sections, and elevations of Rome's important buildings and monuments. This project started as a way to provide our students access to these materials while they spend their third year studying abroad in Rome. Once we started digitizing them we began to brainstorm about ways in which we could provide access to this

content in a unique and interesting way and what emerged was a plan to bring the library into the field through the development of the SPQR-ND application.

The app, which focuses specifically on the Roman Forum, provides fully digitized publications virtually broken apart in order for the user to study different interpretations of particular monuments in the Forum side-by-side. It provides historic documentation of the monuments through both a map view and a browseable list. For each entry


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the viewer can also fade between a historic drawing and a current photograph in order to demonstrate the transition of the site and monuments over time and see their current state. The application also contains layers of historic maps of the Forum, and since each monument is geolocated the user can understand not just their design but their physical placement within the Forum.

Presenting the SPQR-ND application in the Emerging Technologies Forum served as a great way to gauge instantly the application's reception among educated audience members. Overwhelmingly, the librarians were surprised to learn that SPQR-ND is freely available in the App Store. Everyone assumed that there was a charge or it was behind Notre Dame authentication software. Since the content that populates the application is from either rare books in the Architecture Library's collection, which are out of copyright, or was created by architecture students working in the library, there is simply no reason to charge for the app. We want this tool to be used by anyone with an interest in the Roman Forum.

The second most common question concerned the application's availability for Android devices. The application was developed in the iOS environment, using Xcode. Unfortunately, this means that SPQR-ND is only available for iOS devices. We hope to translate the application to be available on Android devices in the future. In the meantime, we have iPad stands set up in the Architecture Library in Bond Hall for Android users to experience SPQR-ND.

Presenting this application in the Emerging Technology Forum at ARLIS/NA in Fort Worth gave me the opportunity to showcase the features of SPQR-ND face-to-face with interested members from the library community. Talking with colleagues from a wide range of institutions provided me with great feedback that I was able to take back to our team working on the application at Notre Dame so that we can work on improving and expanding SPQR-ND. 

ARLIS/NA Midstates Bunce Travel Award Report

By Janelle Rebel, Graduate Student in Visual & Critical Studies at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Reference Librarian at Concordia University Chicago


This March, I was honored to receive the William C. Bunce ARLIS/NA Midstates Travel Award to attend the 43rd Annual ARLIS/NA Conference in Fort Worth, Texas. I would like to extend a warm thank you to the Midstates chapter and the selection committee for the opportunity to take part in this year's ARLIS/NA conference.

As a first-time conference goer, I participated in the conference mentoring program and was fortuitously paired up with fellow Chicagoan Leigh Gates. She graciously took the time to introduce me to members at events throughout the weekend. I enjoyed talking with art librarians from across the continent at the receptions, meetings, poster sessions, and informal gatherings. There were many professional development opportunities to meet new and long-standing members, ask questions, and discuss topics relevant in the field.

I am grateful for the experience and in the coming months have several notes that I'd like to follow up on. At present, two conference sessions stick out in my mind: Friday's "Library Services for Working Artists: Beyond Research to the New Frontier of Practice" and Saturday's "Telling Stories: Regional Artists and Their Art."

"Library Services for Working Artists" explored the not-so neat divide between research and creative practice. How do artists and designers seek out, use, and work with resources to inform their work? How do library collections spring up around their patrons' research interests and grow into robust targeted collections? Three presentations discussed a range of uses and users, focusing on the New York Public Library's browseable open-shelf Picture Collection, the Studio of John Baldessari's hybrid library and archive, and the resource guide for working artists prepared by the Public Librarians Special Interest Group (SIG).

The talks in the "Telling Stories" panel all seemed to gather around the intersection of the librarian as an author, historian, instigator, or co-creator. The topics included an interview and book project showcasing Texas collage and assemblage artists, an archive and book project identifying the people and places associated with the visionary art environments around Houston, and a multimedia archive capturing the stories of the pottery community in Minnesota's St. Croix River Valley. The presenters, each acting dynamically in their local environments, developed projects that collectively prompt the following questions: how can librarians as researchers spur on the development of new resources? How can librarians provide a platform for underrepresented or alternative voices?

Even as I am still processing my own "takeaways," I wanted to thank you again for your generosity. I enjoyed meeting you in Fort Worth, and look forward to reconnecting at an upcoming chapter meeting. 

From the ARLIS/NA Chapters Liaison

By Rebecca Friedman, Greetings Midstates Chapter Members!

Chapters Liaison

I have just begun my two-year term as Chapters Liaison and hope to continue the excellent work of my predecessor Sarah Sherman. I look forward to working with you and to receiving your feedback and suggestions in the coming months.

I have been a member of ARLIS since the late 1990s, and a member of the New York Chapter for most of that time, although I now live in New Jersey. My first professional position was in the Southeast, however, and I got to spend some time with several of your Chapter's members at a joint conference in New Orleans back in 2003. I have been at Princeton University since 2006, and since June 2007 as one of two librarians at the art and archaeology library at Princeton, called Marquand.



ARLIS/NA Documentation

As you may know, the Executive Board of ARLIS has been working on editing and refining many of our core documents like the Policy Manual, and this has led to a recent discussion about our mission and related statements to ensure they reflect the goals, activities and scope of our membership at this point in time. The Code of Conduct that was created for the Fort Worth conference will evolve into a permanent Code that can be incorporated by Chapters both on their websites and as a guiding document for Chapter activities. I will also be updating the Chapter Success Book during my term on the Board. Lastly, the new strategic planning process is underway and there will be more news on that front soon.

Special Funding and Project Charters

The call for special funding has gone out and Chapters have until **July 15** to submit requests that fall within the stated guidelines on the ARLIS/NA site: see Administrative Documents, and then Financial Information down at the bottom. On a related note, ARLIS has recently created a Project and Service Charter form for submitting requests to pursue initiatives of relevance to the Society at large. This form is also available under Administrative Documents and completed forms may be submitted to me at any time to present to the Board; more information about the Project Charter will be communicated to the membership in the coming weeks.

The Executive Board continues to meet virtually on a monthly basis, and will meet in person for our mid-year board meeting on Aug. 20-21 in Philadelphia. Feel free to contact me before those meetings if there are pertinent issues to bring to the Board. A very happy and relaxing spring and summer to all!

Rebecca Friedman
ARLIS/NA Executive Board, Chapters Liaison
Assistant Librarian, Marquand Library of Art & Archaeology
Acting Librarian, School of Architecture Library
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Fall ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter Meeting October 2-3, 2015

This fall the ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter will meet in Grand Rapids, Michigan, October 2-3, 2015, at the [Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park](#) during [ArtPrize](#), the citywide art competition. Make your reservations early!

ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter Financial Report

Melanie Emerson,
Secretary/Treasurer
memerson@illinois.edu

Midstates Chapter Account:

Balance on October 3, 2014	\$ 1890.48
	+ \$23.90 (VRA check not cashed for Fall 2014 Joint Meeting*)
	- \$350 (Ft. Worth Welcome Party)
	+ \$420 (Membership Dues)
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Balance as of April 30, 2015	\$ 1984.38
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* VRA check will be reissued and reflected in next report.

Bunce Travel Award Account:

Balance on October 3, 2014	\$1080
	- \$300 (travel award)
	+ \$160 (donations)
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Balance as of April 30, 2015	\$940
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Members

As of April 30, 2015 the ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter has 22 members in good standing.

Member News

SEI 2015 at the Univ. of Illinois in June

The Summer Educational Institute for Visual Resources and Image Management (SEI) will take place at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign June 9-12, 2015. See the [SEI 2015 website](#) for registration, curriculum, and more information on this joint project of ARLIS/NA and the Visual Resources Association (VRA).

ARLIS/NA Midstates SEI 2015 Attendance Award Goes to Dennis Hillers

Our chapter is proud to help sponsor a Midstates library school student's attendance at SEI 2015. We selected Dennis Hillers, a student at the Wayne State University School of Library and Information Science to receive our award of \$300. This fall he is undertaking a combined program in Special and Archival Collections and Medieval History, in order to pursue his desire to work with medieval manuscripts and incunabula in a special collections environment. We hope he can attend our fall meeting in Grand Rapids so that we can hear about his SEI experience.

New Chapter Webmaster

[Anne Danberg](#), Ryerson & Burnham Libraries at The Art Institute of Chicago, is the new webmaster for the ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter website. Thanks to outgoing webmaster Alexis Burson for her past work on the website, and thanks to Anne for taking on this role.

Annette Haines Moves to California

Annette Haines, formerly Art & Design Librarian at the University of Michigan and active chapter member, has moved to California to follow her dream of being an artist. We'll miss her, but wish her well in her new pursuits.

New Position for Melanie Emerson

Melanie Emerson started her new position at the Head of the Ricker Library of Architecture and Art as the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign on March 1, 2015. Congratulations, Melanie!

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Kai Alexis Smith voted Vice Chair, Chair Elect of ACRL/Arts Section

Congratulations to Kai Alexis Smith, who was recently voted Vice Chair, Chair Elect of ACRL/Arts Section for 2015-2017! As Kai noted in her candidate statement, she “hopes to bring a fresh perspective to the profession and the ACRL/Arts Section through her collaborative efforts and plans to build a stronger partnership between the ACRL/Arts Section and ARLIS/NA along with other ALA sections.”

Welcome New Members!

ARLIS/NA Midstates welcomed 5 new members this year and we invited them to share brief introductions.

Anne Danberg is in a temporary position as a Reference Librarian at the Ryerson & Burnham Libraries at the Art Institute of Chicago. She received her MLIS from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in August 2014. While completing her MLIS, she worked as a Graduate Assistant at the Ricker Library of Architecture and Art and was also involved with the Visual Resources Center. Anne is looking forward to participating in the Midstates chapter and contributing to the Midstates website.

Karyn Hinkle is the new Art Librarian at Northwestern University Library. She recently relocated to Chicagoland from New York City, where she worked in the libraries of the Brooklyn Museum and the Bard Graduate Center, at which she was the Reader Services Librarian from 2007 to 2015. Karyn has been an ARLIS member ever since she was introduced to the organization back in her first semester of library school at the Pratt Institute. She served several years on the board of the New York chapter, and while she misses her ARLIS/NY friends and colleagues greatly, she's thrilled to join the Midstates chapter and eager to meet our colleagues here.

Janelle Rebel is an MA candidate in Visual & Critical Studies at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and works as a Reference Librarian at Concordia University Chicago. She earned her MLIS from Dominican

University, and has a BFA in graphic design from Ball State University. Her research interests are critical graphic design, contemporary publishing practices, and art and design bibliography. Janelle recently wrote a micro story for the Flaxman Library *Vi-trine* exhibition on typography, conceptual art, and attribution; and is currently working on an experimental bibliography of architectural theory.

Kai Alexis Smith is now the Librarian-in-Residence at the University of Notre Dame. She comes to ND from the City University of New York (CUNY) Graduate Center in New York City where she was a part time Reference Librarian and Housatonic Community College in Connecticut where she was a part time Bibliographic Instruction and Reference Librarian. She received her M.S. in Library and Information Science from Pratt Institute in 2013 as well as a BFA in Writing in 2005. She started a M.A. in Art History at Pratt Institute, but currently has paused her studies. She plans on completing the degree in the near future and has a interest in Latin American and Caribbean art, architecture and culture.

Karen Stafford is a Catalog/Reference Librarian at the Art Institute of Chicago's Ryerson & Burnham Libraries. She earned a triple major from the University of Missouri-Kansas City (BA Philosophy, BA English, BM Music) and an MLS with a specialization in rare books and manuscripts librarianship from Indiana University. She is currently "all but dissertation" for a PhD in Musicology, also from Indiana University. As an active member of the Amalgamated Printers' Association, she enjoys letterpress printing in her free time. Karen recently became chair of the Midwestern Art Cataloging Discussion Group (MACDG) and looks forward to putting together some exciting meetings for people interested in cataloging.



Send news items and articles for the next ARLIS/NA Midstates Newsletter to Amy Trendler at aetrendler@bsu.edu