Letter from the Chair

By Melanie Emerson

ARLIS/NA-Midstates Chapter Chair, 2018

It was great to see so many of you in Indianapolis. Thanks for attending both in person and online! I hope you all enjoyed the presentations, tours, and other events. Thanks again to Sonja Lehman for all her hard work organizing so much of our meeting and events, and to Sarah Carter for overseeing the programming aspect of the meeting.

We covered a lot in our business meeting. I will try to provide an overview of some of the main points. We had updates on our Chapter mentoring program, which has been very successful on all accounts. I would encourage anyone interested in participating in the program to contact Jamie Vander Broek. She will be happy to help pair members. We also heard about the website updates and work to migrate our Chapter website to WordPress. This will allow for more flexibility and options for new, engaging content. Our hope is to have the site migrated to WordPress by the annual conference. We also talked about several outreach events hosted by the Chapter. This included the Chicago Happy Hour meet-ups. One was hosted in early September and the other in late October to welcome the NDSR Art Residents and the program coordinators. Additionally, we hosted a panel discussion at the University of Illinois iSchool in October. This event was co-sponsored by the Special Library Association Illinois Chapter. Two of our Chapter members presented on their work experience in a variety of art librarians and discussed the benefits of participating in ARLIS/NA. It was very well attended with over thirty-five in-person attendees and seven online participants. It is possible this event will be repeated next fall at the University of Illinois but may also be a model for other programs in the Chapter. We are also going to submit a request for special funding to print bookmarks and purchase a tablecloth with the Midstates logo for use by members at events, iSchools, and library programs at their institutions or nearby institutions.

Another topic of discussion was the need for volunteers for a number of roles within the chapter. I am happy to say, we now have volunteers for all these positions and committees. Courtney Becks, Leigh Gates, and Alyssa Vincent make up our Bunce Travel Award Committee. Thank you very much to Amy Trendler for her years of dedication to the Chapter on
so many projects, but in particular as Editor of this newsletter. Mackenzie Salisbury will take over in this role for Amy. I would also like to thank Autumn Mather for her work as the Web Editor over the last couple of years, Rebecca Price will take over for Autumn in the coming months. We also have elections for new chapter officers coming up soon – look for email announcements about voting in early December.

It is also time to start thinking about the Salt Lake City Conference. March will be here before you know it! Several of our members will be presenting papers and workshops and, of course, the chapter will be meeting there. Anna Simon, our Chair-Elect will begin her term as Chapter Chair in January and will lead our spring chapter meeting. Look out for emails about that schedule early next year.

Sincerely,
Melanie E. Emerson
Chair, ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter

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Midwestern Art Cataloging Discussion Group

By Karen Stafford, MACDG Chair and Head of Technical Services, Ryerson & Burnham Libraries, The Art Institute of Chicago

The fall 2018 meeting of the Midwestern Art Cataloging Discussion Group (MACDG) was held on October 26 at DePaul University. The eleven attendees hailed from Illinois and Indiana.

Our day began at the DePaul University Library with the MACDG business meeting and an active discussion. Discussion topics included offsite storage, shelf-ready cataloging, linked data, volunteers and interns, data clean-up projects, and the ARLIS/NA Artist Files Special Interest Group's new "Best Practices for Cataloging Artist Files Using MARC." Additionally, the group learned about a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to the University of Notre Dame's Hesburgh Library and Snite Museum of Art to create a unified platform for digitized cultural heritage objects across departments.

After a break for lunch, the group was given a tour of DePaul Art Museum's exhibitions with assistant curator Mia Lopez. Exhibitions included Brendan Fernandes: The Living Mask; Yasuhiro Ishimoto: Someday, Chicago; and Whitney Bradshaw: Outcry. Lastly, the group was given a tour of the Roger Brown Study Collection. This space is a house museum, archive, and one of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago's (SAIC) special collections. Preserved in SAIC alum Roger Brown's (BFA 1968, MFA 1970) former home and studio, RBSC is filled with objects from the far corners of the world of thing-making.

Minutes for our most recent and past meetings can be found on the MACDG website, https://artcataloging.wordpress.com. Please contact Karen Stafford at kstafford2@artic.edu if you would like to be added to our mailing list.
The Fall 2018 ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter meeting convened in beautiful Indianapolis, IN on October 19th and 20th at Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) University Library. After a lovely morning breakfast, we began the meeting with introductions followed by discussion around our annual reporting and updates. Notable changes this year include a new website to be managed by Rebecca Price, organized outreach events such as the iSchool panel, and creation of a chapter bookmark by Alexis Burson and Amy Trendler. We are also in the process of nominating a new Secretary/Treasurer and Vice Chair/Chair-Elect for the chapter.

After the chapter business had concluded, there was a short break in which we were able to explore the posters by Tyne Lowe and Stacia McKeever. Tyne Lowe’s poster on “Comics Research Libraries and the Needs of Academic Researchers”, which focused on the value of original, physical comics for researchers and teachers, specifically the importance of original comic art and original prints (such as in newspapers) that retain contextual material and information. Stacia McKeever’s poster “ArtLab: An Art Discovery Tool” showcased the app as an educational tool allowing for users to explore, collect, and learn by discovering artwork and artists, collecting

- Continued on page 4 -
favorites, and learning to identify and articulate concepts introduced in the classroom as they practice applying them to library materials and works found in university collections.

Shortly following the poster session there were a number of presentations from chapter members on a wide variety of topics. Molly Szymanski, the Art Institute of Chicago’s National Digital Stewardship Resident (NDSR), talked about her project in “Capturing the Museum Experience: Saving Electronic Media in the Galleries (and Beyond).” This presentation covered her position in the library and museum, and explored her methods of navigating digital materials throughout the museum and how to talk about the value of digital born resources. Secondly, Stephanie Fletcher presented “There are No Bibliographic Emergencies: Working with Researchers to Overcome Unexpected Database Changes,” in which she shared her experience working with a particular vendor, and more specifically, how to make the best out of difficult situations when it comes to working with curators. And finally, the presentations ended with Larissa Garcia and Mackenzie Salisbury, who presented “Creativity in the Classroom: Information Literacy as Artistic Practice.” In this presentation, each member spoke about ways in which they utilize creativity to engage students with the information literacy framework. This portion of the meeting ended with open discussion of current and best practices for working with those in the arts.
In the afternoon, chapter members met at the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art for a lovely tour of the current exhibitions. This included *Harry Fonseca: The Art of Living*, which “remembers and shares the talent, perspective and legacy of the late Harry Fonseca (Maidu/Nisenan, Portuguese, Hawaiian, 1946–2006). One of the most beloved and revered contemporary Native artists of our time, Fonseca is known for the versatility and experimentation of his work. His retrospective exhibition, *Harry Fonseca: The Art of Living*, explores histories of Native peoples, of painting and the humanity of a life well lived.” Additionally members toured the galleries of *The Reel West* which explores the impact of Hollywood, Western movies, and TV shows on shaping American identity, and the other permanent collections. The last stop on our tour was visiting the Watanabe Family Library and the Stephen and Sharon Zimmerman Resource Center where we chatted with librarian Kristin Stout about the collections.

The final reception was hosted by Sonja Lehman and held at the beautiful Herron Art Library, where we were given a tour of their lovely renovated space. This included cabinets and display cases created specifically for the library, making it a truly inviting space to be in. Many of us also appreciated the fun signs made by the student workers that incorporated cats + pop culture. Tea and cookies were much appreciated as we browsed the display of artists’ books on exhibition. The following morning after breakfast there was a tour and collage workshop at the Indianapolis Art Center, where there was an exhibition of kaleidoscopes on display in the center’s library.
Let’s Hear It for Book Arts!

By Sarah Lange, iSchool graduate student, University of Wisconsin—Madison

The University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Kohler Art Library holds a collection of more than 1,200 artists’ books from 150-plus presses, and the university’s Art Department enjoys a rich history of book arts instruction with notable faculty and alums. Since the early 1970s, artists including Walter Hamady, Claire Van Vliet, John Risseeuw, Ruth Lingen, Barbara Tetenbaum and Amos Paul Kennedy Jr. made paper, set type and printed books on campus.

David Pavelich, the director of Special Collections & Archives at the UW, saw an opportunity to capture the stories behind the books the Kohler Art Library holds. He suggested a collaboration between the art library and the Oral History Program at University Archives. With funding from the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries, I was hired as the project coordinator/oral historian for UW-Madison Book Arts: An Oral History.

When I joined the project, 70 artists had already been identified as possible candidates to interview, but the plan called for 12-20. Lyn Korenic, the director of the Kohler Art Library; Troy Reeves, the head of the Oral History Program; and I narrowed down the list, ultimately settling on artists who could reflect on various aspects within the book arts field and showcase the diverse talent the UW has attracted. As of this writing, we’ve included 9 women and 10 men as well as African-American, international and LGBTQ artists.

I came to the project with 15 years of experience as a magazine editor, including interviews with many artists and writers, but I was grateful to Troy for sharing resources that explained how oral history interviews differed from journalistic ones. I learned that oral histories have narrators who are empowered to tell their stories in ways that suit them, and my role became a facilitator of their stories. With Lyn’s help, I prepared for interviews by researching the artists and experiencing their exquisite books firsthand.

As I collected stories, themes emerged, such as the role of collaboration in bookmaking and the community the artists formed on campus—and then extended through other book projects years after graduation. The artists described processes for watermarks and color reduction woodcuts, and the narrators considered the influence of places including Madawaska, Maine, and Lima, Peru, and events such as Sept. 11, 2001. The project even uncovered surprises, like a pregnant Sue Gosin puncturing condoms to make paper with them at the request of Warrington Colescott for the book *Improvisations*.

According to Lyn, “It’s remarkable how oral histories can add such depth of understanding to material objects that pique our curiosity as to their content, materials and process. Sarah has done a fantastic job gathering these recollections, and Troy envisions the oral histories will serve as an important resource for current and future generations of scholars.”

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Library Profile: Herron Art Library, Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis

By Sonja Lehman, Directory, Herron Art Library

The Herron Art Library offers a rich history of over a century of service to patrons conducting research in the visual arts. The library first opened its doors to the museum staff, students, and patrons of the John Herron Art Institute in 1906, located at 16th and Pennsylvania streets, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Today the library resides on the Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI) Campus within the IUPUI Herron School of Art and Design building, and operates as a full-service branch library of IUPUI University Library. The Herron Art Library provides collections and services in support of the academic work of the art school and aligned with the strategic priorities of University Library. Herron Library staff continue the library’s record of commitment to serving the faculty, students, and staff of the campus, residents of Indiana, and visiting scholars.

The library’s collections consist of approximately 30,000 volumes in-house with overflow shelved at the main library, 145 art journal subscriptions, 1,300 DVDs, and access to streaming media and digital collections produced in-house and licensed, including the school’s MFA theses deposited in the main library’s institutional repository. The Library is home to an impressive and growing Herron Fine Press / Book Arts Collection and the Al-Mutanabbi Street Starts Here Coalition Collection. Through the ongoing and most generous support of a donor, the Herron Library facility has undergone a number of renovations since it moved in to its new space on the IUPUI campus in May 2005.

The Herron Library promotes its collections and services through social networking media tools and is actively engaged in the digital production, scholarly communication, and educational services initiatives of the main library in an effort to produce, support, and further teaching and learning at the Herron School of Art and Design and on the IUPUI campus.

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Digital Scholarship and Production – Teaching, Learning, and Capturing Local Cultural Heritage

The Herron Library began exploring digital formats for teaching and learning in 1998 when it was one of 16 North American institutions to receive testbed status with the Art Museum Image Consortium (AMICO) project. As a result of the AMICO project and while an active participant, the Herron Library was awarded a $290,000.00 matching National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services in 2000. The library was one of 42 institutions in the first round of awards given. Our project focused on providing licensed digital art-related content to central Indiana K-12 educational institutions (public, private, homeschool, and museum K-12 audiences). These two leading-edge projects lead the library in its in-house digital production activities. Our first in-house project involved digitizing the newsletter Umbrella in 2005 when we sought and were granted non-exclusive distribution rights by Judith Hoffberg, co-founder of ARLIS/NA, and, founder of Umbrella Associates, publisher and editor of the artists’ book newsletter. Library staff scanned and uploaded the issues into our content management system.

Today, the Herron Art Library typically produces one to two new digital collections per year that support the academic work of the faculty and students at the art school or campus, and/or tell the story of the cultural heritage of Indianapolis. We enjoy a number of important collaborative relationships with local arts and cultural organizations as a result of our ongoing work to digitally capture and share local history.

Functioning alongside the IUPUI University Library Center for Digital Scholarship we provide digital scholarship support to the art school’s teaching and learning activities, the main library’s/campus open access policy, digital humanities initiatives that archive and provide virtual access to the library’s special collections, students’ creative research, local architectural history, selections of the exhibition history of the School, the School’s MFA theses, as well as other cultural heritage content.

We are excited about our newest collaborative project which involves using two or more of our digital collections as course content in Spring 2019. Students will be required to do research around items in our digital collection, Indiana Landmarks Central Canal and IUPUI Image Collection, to produce online exhibits that combine our digital content and their research using the OMEKA platform. A few of our digital collections are listed below:

- Harry A. Davis Image Collection
- Herron Fine Press and Book Arts Collection
- Herron School of Art and Design MFA Visual Collection
- Indiana Artists

Educational Services

The Herron Library provides support to the teaching, learning, and research needs of the students and faculty through the library’s Educational Services Program of IUPUI University Library. The Herron Library
provides research consultations as well as library instruction sessions across all levels, freshman through graduate. The instruction sessions cover a wide range of topics including visual/information literacy, research strategies, selecting and evaluating resources, thesis/topic development, citation processes, plagiarism, and presentations covering the Herron Library Fine Press and Book Arts collection.

Student Engagement

Experiential learning is an IUPUI campus priority. The library has looked for ways to support, facilitate, and capture the creative research and academic work of the students. In 2002 IUPUI University Library began our annual IUPUI University Library Atrium Sculpture Competition. The Herron Library coordinates this annual competition. Each year upper level Herron School of Art and Design undergraduate sculpture students have the opportunity to compete for this $2,500 commission to create, install, and subsequently remove their public sculpture work installed in the main library’s central atrium. Annually, during early Spring semester the Herron Library coordinates the selection meeting. During this meeting, students present mock sculptures they propose to build to scale along with the material and weight specifications required to safely hang the sculpture from the fourth floor ceiling. Members of the committee select one student’s work based on the aesthetic quality, craftsmanship, and feasibility of completing and safely installing their work the following Fall semester. The piece hangs for the academic year and is replaced with the subsequent winning selection.

Three years ago the Herron Library initiated the Herron School of Art and Design Book Arts Capstone Exhibition Experience. Seeing a need to provide exhibition space for students earning a minor in the book arts, the Herron Library responded by developing the Book Arts Capstone Exhibition experience. Herron students are often introduced to the book arts genre during the Herron Art Library’s 100 and 200 level library instruction sessions. During these library presentations students are able to handle these magical art objects from the Herron Art Library book arts collection, experiencing these creative works in an intimate, first-hand way. Students are able to see and explore the work of important contemporary book artists across the U.S. and internationally such as Ron King / Circle Press (London), Christine Kermaire (Belgium), Julie Chen, Bea Nettles, Lois Morrison, Rebecca Goodale, Shawn Sheehy, Helen Hiebert, Karen Hanmer, Bonnie Stahlecker, and Karen Baldner (regional book artist and Herron book arts instructor), as well as many others; inspiring many students to follow a course of study through the Herron School of Art and Design Book Arts minor program.

The Book Arts Capstone Exhibition Experience is held during the book arts minor students last semester. Under the direction of the Herron School of Art and Design book arts instructor, this student-driven exhibition highlights selections of the students’ works created during their academic career at Herron. It is easy to see the influence and impact of the Herron Art Library’s book arts collection through the students’ use of unique binding structures, materials, mediums, and/or themes. This capstone exhibition experience often gives the student their first opportunity to curate and install an exhibition highlighting selections from their creative research. Students’ are responsible to select, install, promote, and, host an opening reception for the exhibition in the Herron Art Library. The exhibition remains on display in the Herron Art Library May through August.

This academic year, aligned with the newly adopted campus initiative to capture student scholarship, the Herron library responded by producing the digital collection of the exhibited work, the Herron School of Art and Design Book Arts Capstone Exhibition Experience. The art library is currently exploring platforms in order to produce an annual exhibition catalog of this work in a digital version which will be available for the students to print and share as desired.

Two new student outreach activities the art library initiated this semester include the I <3 HAL (Herron Art Library) and the Herron Student Study Break. The purpose of these activities is to provide the students an opportunity to engage in a fun and relaxing activity, taking a brief break from their studies during the day. The I <3 HAL activity offered students the opportunity to stop by our table in the hall to make buttons. Students were asked to leave one comment about something they liked about the library and/or something they would like to see changed. We collected this information and are currently compiling the students’ comments. One common comment was for the library to provide coffee for the students. We responded by initiating our Herron Student Study Break held during mid-terms. We provide coffee and snacks along with more button-making activities for a

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few hours during an afternoon. This has been a huge success with the students and has required minimal resources from the library administration to support. We will continue to offer these types of activities for the benefit to the library, the students, and as a means to continue to build stronger connections to the students, breaking down barriers towards the library. One immediate result was the opportunity to promote a part-time student hourly position available at the library. These activities helped us increase our applicant pool.

Special Collections / Donor Support

The Herron Art Library is home to the remarkable and growing Herron Fine Press / Book Arts Collection and Artist Book Alcove. The library collection represents a wide variety of influential contemporary book artists’ works across the globe in a range of themes expressing personal, social, political, or ecological ideas in a variety of bindings, structures, materials, and media.

The collection has grown from a few items held in 1996 to approaching 1000 works comprising both fine press and artists’ books. Soon after the library relocated to the main campus in 2005 we had the amazing good fortune to connect with a local Indianapolis couple that shared our strong passion for the book arts. This connection grew from a brief one hour meeting to a longstanding philanthropic relationship across many years. Through this time the couple has generously supported the growth of the Herron Library’s book arts collection as well as the facility by gifting their personal fine press book arts collections, hundreds more purchased items, five renovations to the library that resulted in adding custom display cabinets, matching custom paneling throughout the library, custom end-panels, an appropriate storage area, and a matching circulation desk. Additionally, they most generously supported important programming around our collection with a local arts organization. And, not to be outdone, a
close friend of the couple gifted matching renovations to build the Herron Library’s Conference / Special Storage room. Our donors’ inestimable generosity and passion for the Herron Library and its book arts collection has had immeasurable impact on the Library’s collection, facility, and programs around the book arts. The Herron Library offers a rich and diverse collection in the book arts for our IUPUI students, patrons, local community, and visiting researchers. The library is widely recognized for its facility and collections—it has connected us to the art school and their academic programs—and especially to the students in a much deeper and more meaningful way for the inspiration and personal experience the items offer to the viewer.

The Herron Fine Press / Book Arts Storage Room pictured at right became a reality with our second facility renovation made possible by our donors. Our slide room containing approximately 160,000 slides was repurposed to create additional reader space, add 3 new custom reading tables, custom display cases with storage around the perimeter of the area, and appropriate storage room for our book arts collection. Additionally, using Herron wages monies, an upper level undergraduate book arts student was hired to make custom boxes with labels for each item in the collection and provide needed support for maintaining the collection, rotating exhibitions, and support for our book arts programs held annually.

In the Summer of 2013 the Herron Library added to our book arts collection when it became home to the Al-Mutanabbi Street Starts Here Coalition collection. Through this agreement the Library held programming to bring awareness to the Coalition’s collections, inventoried the collection as we received it, and developed a traveling exhibition program.

Community Engagement

One of the Campus strategic priorities centers on Community Engagement for the benefit to both the community and to the campus. The Herron Library has a long history of collaborating with local arts organizations on book arts exhibits. Our next new exciting venture is becoming more involved locally with the book arts activities of the area through collaborations and connections with the Indianapolis Book Arts Bunch, a local group of book arts enthusiasts including printmakers, conservationists, papermakers, painters, bookmakers, and so forth. This Fall was a busy fall for making these connections. The Herron Library hosted the Book Arts Bunch in September. In October we invited members of the Book Arts Bunch to participate in bookmaking workshop at the Indianapolis Central Library’s annual Indiana Authors’ Awards. Additionally, the library held a book arts exhibit at the Central Library. The library and the Book Arts Bunch are in planning conversations to host the group’s 20th Anniversary Exhibition Fall 2019 and to produce a digital collection for hosting images of their works as well as a digital exhibition catalog. We are truly excited and looking forward to our new ventures in collaborations around our special collections and technology.
At present, I’m indexing the oral histories, and someone is transcribing them. We hope to make the project accessible to researchers and the public in spring 2019. We’re also excited to share that audio clips from the project will be incorporated into an exhibition about UW-Madison book arts at the campus Chazen Museum of Art in 2020. This forthcoming exhibition will be one of several events celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Elvehjem Building, home to the Kohler Art Library, Chazen Museum of Art and the Art History Department.

Nontraditional Library Careers Panel at iSchool

By Stephanie Fletcher, E-Resources/Reference Librarian, Ryerson & Burnham Libraries, The Art Institute of Chicago

Two ARLIS/NA-Midstates librarians participated in a nontraditional library careers presentation and panel discussion at the University of Illinois on October 24, 2018. Anna Simon (University of Wisconsin-Madison) and Stephanie Fletcher (Art Institute of Chicago) both gave short presentations to a standing-room-only audience, totaling 45 attendees in person and online, at the University of Illinois iSchool in Urbana-Champaign. The ARLIS/NA-Midstates event was co-organized by the Special Libraries Association-Illinois, so Anna and Stephanie were joined by panelists Rachel Cole (Northwestern University) and Kristin Petersheim (Caterpillar), who brought their own unique experiences as librarians in special libraries. The four panelists spoke about their educational backgrounds, their work in research and art library environments, and how their growing relationships with their professional organizations have helped them learn and thrive professionally. The panel conversation, driven by library students’ questions, revolved around job searches, tips for submitting successful applications and giving outstanding interviews, library school course recommendations, tales of internship experiences, how to network by means of internships and practicums, negotiating for full-time status, and applying the skills learned in library school to real-life scenarios in the workplace. The conversation continued over lunch, when panelists chatted more informally with students and had the opportunity to answer questions one-on-one. Melanie Emerson (School of the Art Institute of Chicago) co-chaired and moderated the event alongside Rebecca Hodson (University of Illinois). If your own institution is interested in hosting a career development event like this one, please reach out to Melanie, Anna, or Stephanie. We are happy to answer questions about our positive experiences participating in this student-centered event.

— Let’s Hear It for Book Arts! (Continued from page 6) —

Gymnopædia by Barb Tetenbaum. Image credit: University of Wisconsin Digital Collections Center.
From the ARLIS/NA Chapters Liaison

By Catherine Essinger, Chapters Liaison

Hello, Midstates Chapter.

It has been a pleasure working with your officers and other members again this year. As I near the end of my term as Chapters Liaison, I would like to acknowledge your chapter for being such productive, responsive, and collegial partners. I know my successor, Stefanie Hilles, will feel the same and she will have the privilege of working closely with you once you begin your conference planning.

The ARLIS/NA Executive Board has updated a number of policies and procedures in 2018 in order to ensure our organization is inclusive, efficient, and responsive to the needs of its members. The ARLIS/NA Code of Conduct has been revised by the Diversity Committee and the board, in order to be more explicitly inclusive and offer procedures to address any concerns members have at conferences and in other organizational contexts. A new Advocacy Policy has also been approved in an effort to better articulate ARLIS/NA positions. The Public Policy has also been renamed the Advocacy & Public Policy Committee and its charge has been adjusted.

The board has also appointed new taskforces and personnel that will propel initiatives forward. Courtney Baron has been appointed Instructional Design and User Outreach instructor for SEI. The Cataloging Advisory Committee has created a new liaison position for the ARM Working Group. A Data Assessment Committee has been established and Meredith Kahn will serve as the first Data & Assessment Coordinator and committee chair. The Editorial Board has also made an important personnel change—Rebecca Price has been appointed to succeed Amy Trendler as co-editor of ARLIS/NA Reviews once her term on the Executive Board begins.

In 2018 the board launched a new transparent method for recruiting new division, committee, SIG, and section members, so it is easier for members to get involved. The new interest form helped connect 21 members with their first ARLIS/NA leadership opportunity. Members will receive an annual reminder that links them to the online form each fall.

The Strategic Directions Committee has issued recommendations with specific steps that will move ARLIS/NA closer to its strategic goals. Those recommendations are being reviewed and some are already being implemented. Expect to hear more details and information about new initiatives at the Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City this spring.

Forthcoming deliverables include the Development Committee’s environmental scan of development practices at similar organizations, the NDSR Art Task Force White Paper, the Humanities Commons Task Force Final Report, and the Academic Library Division White Paper.

Please contact me with any questions or suggestions for the Executive Board. I look forward to seeing everyone at the 2019 Annual Conference. Board members on the Conference Planning Committee have told me we will be quite impressed with the quality of events, tours, programming, and venues in Salt Lake City next March. I am looking forward to it very much.

Catherine Essinger
ARLIS/NA Chapters Liaison
Architecture and Art Library Coordinator
Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Librarian
University of Houston
cwessinger@uh.edu
Midstates Chapter Account Balance

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Bunce Travel Award Account Balance

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Membership

As of November 19, 2018 the ARLIS/NA-Midstates Chapter has 45 members in good standing. Thank you everyone and welcome to all our new student members!

The membership renewal period will be open soon. Please watch for an email with a link to an updated membership form. 2019 membership dues are due in January 2019. Thank you!

Submitted by Stephanie Fletcher, Secretary/Treasurer, sfletcher1@artic.edu
Apply for the Bunce Travel Award
Applications for the ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter’s $600 travel award for the annual conference (March 26-30, 2019 in Salt Lake City) are due January 14 at 5pm CST. Visit the travel award page on the chapter website for details.

New Position
Melanie Emerson is now Dean of the Library + Special Collections at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Congratulations, Melanie!

Welcome New Members & Friends of the Chapter!
ARLIS/NA Midstates invited our new members & friends to share brief introductions.

New Friend of the Chapter Cheryl Arvio is a Senior Cataloging Assistant at the Ryerson & Burnham Libraries at the Art Institute of Chicago. She graduated from Northern Illinois University with a degree in Communications Studies where she cultivated an interest in art and architectural history. Cheryl began her tenure at the Ryerson as a part time “pamphleteer,” working on the retrospective conversion of the Library’s thousands of pamphlet files. She then moved into a full-time position where she’s been happily doing copy and original cataloging in the subject area she has long enjoyed.

Hayley-Jane Blackstone is an MA candidate at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago pursuing degrees in both "Contemporary Art History" and "Arts Administration and Public Policy," where she is a Graduate Curatorial Fellow, a Graduate Teaching Assistant, and sits on the student board for the MAAAP Enrichment Fund Grant. She earned a BA in Curatorial Practice from Hampshire College, where her thesis work interrogated the implications & function of archives on art historical research. She is a current recipient of the David C. and Sarajeuan W. Ruttenberg Scholarship Fund in the Arts, as well as an SAIC Dean’s Scholar. She currently contributes to FNewsmagazine and Hooligan Magazine as a staff writer, and edits LOCULUS Performance Journal at large.

Stacia McKeever is an MSLIS candidate at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and holds an MFA in Painting from Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. Stacia works as a Graduate and Research Assistant at the Center for Children’s Books, a non-circulating research collection that runs in collaboration with its review journal The Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books, and is completing a special project with the Ricker Library of Architecture and Art cataloging a collection of zines donated by the UIUC Printmaking department. Her research interests include non-traditional library spaces, critical and reflective instruction pedagogy, and professional development and research methodologies for fine art students. She is currently developing an app, ArtLab, that creates connections between studio coursework, library holdings, and museum and gallery collections.

Carol Ng-He is the Exhibits Coordinator at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library in Illinois. She holds a MA in Art Education from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a Certificate in Museum Studies from Northwestern University. She is a candidate of MLIS at San Jose State University. Previously, she worked as the School and Community Program Manager at the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. She looks forward to integrating her art/museum education skills in her pursuit of librarianship.

Welcome also to Seth Allen, Karina Fisher, Perry Nigro, Molly Szymanski, Tim Vermeulen; and to Friend of the Chapter Amelia James.

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