Dear ARLIS/NA Midstates colleagues,

After having attended the annual ARLIS/NA conferences for some thirty years, I must say that this year’s meeting in Washington, D.C., was exceptionally memorable! Not only did the local weather turn lovely for us, but the programming was strong and relevant, the workshops and tours were outstanding, the social occasions were unforgettable, and the attendance was the largest in memory. The convocation and reception at the Library of Congress was for librarians like coming home to the Mother Ship, with a sumptuous buffet laid out in the main hall. I heard one happy ARLISian say that “this is the best place I ever had a beer!”

Our chapter meeting was informative and productive, including members old and new. The meeting minutes will be posted soon on the Midstates website at http://midstates.arlisna.org/meetings.html. Among topics discussed were chapter social networking, including a Google Map of our members’ libraries; instituting online membership payment through PayPal; the proposal from the VRA Midwest chapter to hold another joint meeting in the Fall in Madison, WI, along with the ARLIS/NA Twin Cities Chapter; new efforts at outreach to information and library science students in the region; and other opportunities for collaboration and socializing in non-art library settings.

Since the conference, Alison Hausladen from the Ryerson Library has kindly volunteered to represent the ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter at a workshop, Navigating Career Opportunities in Libraries, Research, and Knowledge Management, sponsored by the University of Illinois at Chicago Richard J. Daley Library and the Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

I encourage each of us to be alert to local events and occasions which might serve as opportunities to meet new librarians or students interested in art librarianship. I look forward to seeing you all at the Fall meeting September 12-13. Hope your summers go swimmingly! 

By Leigh Gates, ARLIS/NA-Midstates Chapter Chair, 2014
Living His Story Exhibition at Milner Library, Illinois State University

By Kathleen Lonbom, Art, Theatre & Dance Librarian, Milner Library, Illinois State University

Illinois State University’s Milner Library hosted an exhibition of photographic works by School of Art senior, Ashley Koenig, throughout the spring 2014 semester. The Living His Story exhibition documented the artist’s interviews with World War II veterans in Central Illinois using text, photographs, and audio recordings. Artifacts from Ashley’s personal collection of war memorabilia and selected related materials from the collections of Milner Library were also part of the exhibit. The artist’s ongoing research and photographic documentation is an investigation of the relationship between war and memory. A compelling story is told through Ashley’s interviews with veterans who served during World War II who agreed to share their recollections from the past.

The artist’s interest in interviewing veterans was sparked by a body of work she did photographing World War II reenactments. Developing a network of contacts through friends and family Ashley met with and interviewed multiple veterans. Excerpts of these conversations were transcribed and hand-written by Ashley on each photograph. The cursive captioning infused the veterans’ portraits with a sense of a profoundly human and often revealing encounter. The viewer is invited to move in close to the image to read and engage in each of the stories creating an intimate gateway to the veterans’ memories and experiences. As a tribute, and a reminder of the poignant yet inevitable passage of time, the artist included photographs of the veterans taken while they were in active service. With permission, recordings were made during the interviews the artist conducted with each veteran documenting their wartime experience. Ashley overlaid the recordings with historic radio broadcast.

“In Your Hands” photograph of Jerome Even, circa 1941, Pearl Harbor. Photo by Ashley Koenig.

World War II posters and cases with additional photographs from the artist. Photo by Ashley Koenig.

- Continued on page 3 -
announcements recorded throughout the war and made them available to exhibit viewers via a QR code. Throughout the exhibition planning process Ashley worked collaboratively with the Art Librarian, Government Documents Librarian, and History Librarian to select related materials from Milner’s collections to display with her work. Posters from the historic World War II poster collection, part of Milner Library’s Government Documents Collection, were included as well as World War II Newsmaps containing world maps that tracked the overall progress of the war, maps of combat areas, summaries of weekly action, and photos of soldiers and equipment.

In addition to the support the artist received from Milner Library, Ashley was awarded a Friends of the Arts grant from the College of Fine Arts to support her exhibition. As a result of her exhibition at Milner Library Ashley was invited to show Living His Story at the Indian Hill Manor in Rockford, Illinois in May and at the Veterans Memorial Hall also in Rockford, in June. Ashley has been invited to participate in the Honor Flight program (flying World War II veterans to the memorial in Washington D. C.) and is seeking funding from the Illinois Arts Council to support travel with the veterans to document the trip.

Ashley graduated from Illinois State University in May with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art History and Photography. In addition to the exhibits above Ashley continues her investigation with a body of work entitled Coming Home which focuses on interviewing and photographing veterans of the war in Afghanistan.

For information about exhibits at Illinois State University’s Milner Library please visit: http://illinoisstate.libguides.com/milnerexhibits
ARLIS/NA Midstates Bunce Travel Award Report

By Amanda Meeks, Read/Write Library and The Chicago School of Professional Psychology Library

This year I was honored to receive the William C. Bunce Travel Award to attend the 42nd ARLIS/NA Annual Conference in Washington, DC. I would like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to the Midstates chapter and the selection committee for giving me the opportunity to attend my first ARLIS conference. In honor of William C. Bunce, I believe I made the most of the conference and thus it had a remarkable impact on my professional development. The five full days that I was in DC were jam-packed with conference sessions, workshops, tours, and art.

I arrived in DC on Wednesday evening in order to be ready for my 8AM session on Thursday, They Didn’t Cover this in Library School: Applying Public Policy to Institutional Guidelines for Scholarly Communication and Fair Use. This session provided me with a great deal of insight into copyright, an often fuzzy subject for many. After my four hour session on copyright, I went straight to Pyramid Atlantic Studios for an afternoon workshop entitled Bookings: Making Makerspaces for Artists’ Books. The workshop was led by artists and librarians from Women Studio Workshop in New York. They showed several examples of makerspaces from around the country and then led us through some bookmaking activities. At the end of the day I felt like I had so many ideas and projects brewing and I still had four more days of the conference!

The next morning was the Book Art Special Interest Group meeting, which I was co-leading with the other coordinator. We had a very stimulating discussion of where we would be going with the group’s blog and focus for the year. Jaye Fishel and Heather Slania also presented on the Book Art Thesaurus project, which was well-received by all. We determined that we will be focusing on Book Art exhibition best practices over the next year, both researching and sharing this topic with the collective group. After lunch I attended Pro Amor Liberum: Rare Book and Special Collections Librarianship before the Midstates chapter meeting. It was great to connect with the librarians in my chapter and although it was the first time meeting any of them, they were incredibly welcoming. I look forward to being more involved as the year progresses. During the evening hours I attended the ArLiSNAP night out and met several other students and new professionals.

Saturday was equally as full as Thursday and Friday; I started the day with Visual Literacy: putting guidelines into practice followed by Creative engagement for Advocacy: Innovative partnerships between librarians and artists. Both of these sessions were fantastic and shared experiences that inspired me and left me wanting to find new ways to engage with the communities with whom I work. After a trip to the vendor exhibits I made my way to the Library of Congress for Convocation.

My busiest day of the conference was on Sunday. I presented as part of a panel entitled Activist Access and Outreach in Book Arts. My talk focused on my work at the Read/Write Library in Chicago and our library bike program, which I launched just last summer. Later in the evening, I also led a workshop at Pyramid Atlantic on preserving artists’ books from a DIY perspective. The workshop and the talk were both well-attended.

I enjoyed teaching the workshop because it was open to ARLIS members as well as artists in the DC area. It was a good mix of artists and librarians, which made for a great discussion during the workshop activities.

I spent the last day in DC exploring the libraries, museums, and archives around the National Mall. It was the perfect way to end such a stimulating conference. Again, I would like to say thank you to the Midstates chapter and selection committee for providing me with such a rich opportunity for professional growth. Without this award, I would have paid out-of-pocket to attend the conference and I would not have been able to participate in such a great capacity. I look forward to reconnecting at the next conference!
Hello Midstates Chapter Members!

I am now half way through my two-year term, as Chapters Liaison on the ARLIS/NA Executive Board. I’ve enjoyed working with all 17 chapters and I look forward to working with you until the 2015 annual conference in Forth Worth, TX.

At the 2014 annual conference in Washington D.C., the Executive Board had pre- and post-conference meetings and during the conference the Chapter Chairs and I met for a roundtable meeting. I wanted to share a few highlights with you:

**Conferences**

Washington D.C. Conference: It was a record-breaking success (surpassing the success of the 2013 Pasadena conference)! We welcomed 791 registrants, the largest ARLIS/NA conference to date. The fundraising efforts totaled $77,000. We greatly appreciate the support of the sponsors and the 76 vendors.

Future Conferences: I look forward to seeing you in Fort Worth, TX from March 19-23, 2015. We will meet in Seattle, WA in 2016 for the 3rd joint conference with the Visual Resources Association (VRA). The Executive Board is working with prospective host chapters to select a 2017 location.

Virtual Conference: In June, four taped sessions from the D.C. Conference will be available to members and non-members through our new learning software. Watch ARLIS-L for more details.

**Chapter Chairs Roundtable**

The chapter chairs will begin to meet virtually every quarter. These virtual meetings will be a venue for chapter chairs to discuss similar topics and brainstorm new ideas. The meetings will also include key members from the Society who will discuss relevant chapter related topics such as development, diversity, and ARLIS/NA’s Strategic Plan. In addition to these virtual meetings, we will have the in-person meeting at the conference and have discussions on the chapters officers listserv.

**Strategic Plan 2011-2015**

I would like to remind you that chapter activities should align with ARLIS/NA’s Strategic Plan. I recommend that all chapter members familiarize themselves with the plan, which is available here: [http://www.arlisna.org/about/strategic-plan-11-15](http://www.arlisna.org/about/strategic-plan-11-15).

**ARLIS/NA Website (AWS)**

I hope you have had the chance to peruse the newly-designed website. Be sure to log in to the website with your member username and password to see all member-only information. The website no longer has a dedicated member’s page, instead member-only information can appear on any page within the website.

The Executive Board will continue to have our monthly phone meetings and we will gather in-person in New York for the mid-year Executive Board meeting on August 14-15, 2014. As usual, with every meeting we will have a lot to discuss toward the advancement of ARLIS/NA. I will keep you posted!

If you have questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Wishing you all the best,
Sarah Sherman
ARLIS/NA Executive Board, Chapters Liaison
Reference Librarian
Getty Research Institute
ssherman@getty.edu
New ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter Officers

Leigh Gates, Chair
Leigh Gates, Director of Library Services at Harrington, received her Master of Library Science degree from the University of Texas at Austin, with a minor in art/architectural history. After serving as an architecture school librarian, she became the Visual Resources Librarian for the Ryerson Library, the Art Institute of Chicago, where she guided an established and large slide collection into the digital realm by building a digital image collection used by curators and staff of the museum, as well as faculty and students of the School of the Art Institute. After almost 24 years at that position, she joined Harrington College of Design in 2010 as Director of Library Services. She is a long-time member of the Art Libraries Society of North America, the Visual Resources Association, and the Association of College and Research Libraries, serving on many committees and task forces, as well as several Executive Boards. Her interests still lie with Chicago’s architectural history; she volunteers for the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust. And of course, she reads.

Annette Haines, Vice Chair/Chair Elect
Annette Haines, Art & Design Field Librarian at the University of Michigan Library, holds an M.L.I.S. from Wayne State University with a concentration in Art Librarianship. As a field librarian, Annette serves as an embedded liaison to the Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design. She also oversees the operation of the UM Art, Architecture and Engineering Library Special Collections. Annette has been a member of ARLIS/NA Midstates for over twelve years and has served in various capacities from Travel Award Committee member (2004) to previous Chapter Chair (2007) to Co-Publicity Coordinator for the Annual ARLIS/NA Conference (2009). For ARLIS/NA, Annette has served on the Diversity Committee (2010), the Wittenborn Committee (2010) and Co-Moderator for the School Library Division (2007). She currently serves as Coordinator of the Stimulating Creativity in Practice Special Interest Group. Annette’s research interests revolve around the unique needs of studio artists and how creative engagement can move the Library beyond its traditional roles.

Melanie Emerson, Secretary/Treasurer
Melanie Emerson, Head of Reader Services at the Ryerson and Burnham Libraries, holds a MA in Art History, Theory, and Criticism from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a MILS from Wayne State University. Prior to joining the staff of Ryerson and Burnham Libraries in 2005, she worked at the Detroit Institute of Arts Research Library and Archives. Melanie been an active ARLIS/NA member for almost 10 years and has been a member of the Midstates Chapter since 2010. Melanie has served on the Midstates Nominating Committee in 2011 and 2013 and ARLIS/NA Research Awards Subcommittee from 2008 to 2012 (co-chairing the committee in 2011); most recently she served as the Communications and Publications Committee Liaison for the ARLIS/NA Executive Board (2012-2014). Melanie looks forward serving as the chapter's Secretary/Treasurer and working with members of the chapter more closely.
**Midstates Chapter Account:**
Balance on September 6, 2013 $1886.67
+ $280 (memberships)
- $350 (conference welcome party)
- $50 (SEI donation)

Balance on June 26, 2014 $1766.67

**Bunce Travel Award Account:**
Balance on September 6, 2013 $1475
+ $190 (donations)
- $600 (travel award)

Balance on June 26, 2014 $1065

**Members**
As of June 26, 2014 the Midstates Chapter has 19 members in good standing, but a number members who attended the Chapter meeting in DC but have yet to renew. I’d like to encourage those of you haven’t had a chance to renew, to submit their renewals as soon as possible. Thank you!

**Melanie Emerson,**
Secretary/Treasurer
memerson@artic.edu

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**New Dual Degree Program at University of Wisconsin, Madison**
The University of Wisconsin, Madison, now offers a dual degree in the School of Library and Information Studies (SLIS) and Art History M.A. programs. Students need to apply for, and be accepted to, both programs separately. Students need to complete 64 total credits to earn the double degree. Two courses are required: LIS 855: Art Librarianship and AH 701 Practicum: Bibliography, Historiography, Methods. For more information, see each individual department's website: [http://www.slis.wisc.edu/doubledegree.htm#art](http://www.slis.wisc.edu/doubledegree.htm#art) and [https://arthistory.wisc.edu/graduate-program.htm](https://arthistory.wisc.edu/graduate-program.htm).

**Save the Date! Fall Midstates Meeting**
This fall the ARLIS/NA-Midstates Chapter fall meeting will take place as part of a joint conference with the ARLIS/NA Twin Cities Chapter and the VRA Midwest Chapter. The joint conference will be held on Friday and Saturday, **September 12-13, 2014, at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.** You’ll find registration information and more on housing, parking, and dining in Madison on the ARLIS/NA Midstates homepage: [http://midstates.arlisna.org/home.html](http://midstates.arlisna.org/home.html).

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