Midstates Spring 2016 Meeting Minutes
Seattle, WA

Attendance: Rene Aranzamendez, Alexis Burson, Melanie Emerson, Lyn Korenic, Cara List, Doug Litts, Rebecca Price, Viveca Pattison Robichaud, Karen Stafford, Rijn Templeton, Amy Trendler, Andrew Wang (plus 18 people from ARLIS/NA Twin Cities Chapter, VRA Midwest Chapter, VRA Great Lakes Chapter)

Notes (unofficial minutes)
The annual conference chapter meeting was held in conjunction with meetings of the VRA Midwest Chapter, VRA Great Lakes Chapter, and ARLIS/NA Twin Cities Chapter at the joint ARLIS/NA VRA Conference in Seattle.

Jacob Esselstrom (VRA Midwest) and Viveca Pattison Robichaud (ARLIS/NA Midstates Chapter) led the meeting. Because of the mixing of 4 chapter meetings, there was no particular agenda.

Jacob began the meeting by announcing the creation of the “Transitional Media” group within VRA to develop information and advice for VRA members to manage the transition from slide collections to digital collections, particularly addressing issues of weeding, dispersal, and preservation of slide collections. Information can be found on the VRA website (vraweb.org).

Discussion: The group used our combined meeting to talk about the possibilities of collaboration between VRA and ARLIS/NA. It was suggested that we recommend to the two boards that the Task Force on Collaboration (between the two organizations) be reinstated. A report was created several years ago, yet it remains a viable theme that should be re-addressed. The consensus at the time was that there should be more collaboration. Discussion then moved to the history of the separation of VRA and ARLIS/NA and the distinction between the two organizations.

The final ten minutes of the hour were devoted to individual chapter meetings. We focused our discussion on the upcoming IFLA Arts Section Conference, August 9-11 in Chicago.

Viveca led the discussion bringing us up to speed on conference planning.

Notre Dame is officially hosting the conference and is providing registration services; the Art Institute is a major sponsor, providing meeting and event space. The first evening will feature a reception at the museum and the second evening will feature a ticketed dinner at the museum. A request is being prepared for a keynote speaker.
The programming is set: a day and a half for presentations (Aug. 9-10) at the Art Institute and a day and a half (Aug. 10-11) for tours. The conference website is active. Online registration for the conference will open in late April. Our implementation team is working with Sandra Ludig Brooke of the ALRIS/NA International Relations Committee.

Viveca Pattison Robichaud, Melanie Emerson, and Doug Litts are involved in developing the programming.

Alexis Burson and Karen Stafford are working on tour and event planning.

Cara List and Bridget Madden are heading up development efforts. They’ll start in earnest after this conference (at the request of ARLIS/NA).

Anne Danberg created and is maintaining the conference website.

Leigh Gates will be in charge of volunteers during the conference.

Rebecca Price will manage publicity efforts.

Our meeting time came to an end and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted: March 17, 2016
Rebecca Price