Art Libraries of North America / Central Plains Chapter
Business Meeting
Washington University, West Campus Conference Center, St. Louis
October 15, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Suzy Frechette, Central Plains Chapter Chair, followed by welcoming remarks. All in attendance introduced themselves. 15 people attended the meeting: members P. Jones, T. Young, C. Vasquez, M. Russell, S. Lacerte, M. Kriz, M. Cavanaugh, R. Vecchiola, A. Cranor, S. Frechette, and M. Poehler. Guests in attendance were Peter Klubek, USM student, Jamie Aydt, Indiana U-Bloomington graduate, Shannon Showers, Washington University, and Ryan Edge, SLAM intern.

The minutes from the May 14, 2010, meeting in Sedalia, Mo, were distributed and reviewed. Clare Vasquez moved to accept the minutes, and Tom Young seconded; motion carried. M. J. Poehler apologized that the May meeting minutes had not been e-mailed to the membership prior to the St. Louis meeting.

The Secretary/Treasurer’s Report was presented by M. J. Poehler as follows:
- Checking account balance as of May 13, 2010: $3094.69
- Total income: $235.00 (annual dues and May meeting registration)
- Total expenses: $75.00 (Holiday Inn Express Conference Room rental)
- Balance as of October 14, 2010: $3254.69

M. J. Poehler presented the membership report. The Central Plains Chapter has 9 lifetime members; and prior to the meeting, 2010 annual dues had been collected from 15 people, bringing total paid membership to 24, at the time the report was prepared. At the meeting, additional 2010 dues were collected from 2 people.

Mikael Kriz presented the Web Editor’s report. Mikael has used the Drupal content management system in rebuilding the chapter website, and wants to continue with Drupal. St. Louis University currently hosts the website. Mikael plans to check with TEI as to whether using Drupal is possible on TEI-hosted websites. If TEI won’t allow Drupal, Mikael will proceed with the update, for continued hosting at SLU. If TEI hosting can accommodate Drupal, then the website will move there. There was discussion on security provisions for protecting web content that lists members’ contact information.

Discussion segued to the topic of establishing a chapter listserv. This is a service that is available through TEI. Members are in favor of a TEI hosted chapter listserv. M. J. Poehler will investigate and initiate a listserv for Central Plains Chapter communications. Individuals on the current “extended” mailing list, which includes all current members as well as non-member library personnel in the 5-state region, will be invited to join the listserv.

News from ARLIS/NA was reported by Mari Russell, ARLIS/NA President, and Central Plains member. Mari recently (Oct. 13) posted an update to ARLIS-L that reported on the September midyear board meeting.

The Conference Planning Advisory Committee has worked diligently to plan the next annual conference, which will be a joint conference with the Visual Resources Association, to be held 3/24 – 3/28, 2011, at the Hilton in downtown Minneapolis. The two organizations will hold separate
membership meetings, but all other activities and events will be held jointly, to include the Society Circle event. This will be a combined fundraiser, held at Gale Mansion on Thursday night. A combined convocation is planned for Friday evening at the Hilton; followed by an ice breaker at Walker Art Center, 7 pm - 10 pm.

The ARLIS/NA Strategic Planning (SP) Committee is beginning the process of gathering input from the membership for the next Strategic Plan (2011-2015). As a part of this process, on Oct. 13, Mari e-mailed a request to all chapter chairs asking that the chapters consider ARLIS/NA strategic planning at their fall meetings, by reviewing and discussing critical issues identified by the committee. Suzy distributed a copy of that e-mail at the meeting. It listed 7 critical issues identified by the SP committee for consideration:

- New directions and identity for the profession
- A stronger leadership presence through promotion and advocacy
- Addressing risk management and stewardship of our collections
- The critical role of collaborations and partnerships
- Increased international connections
- Prioritizing the Society’s role in R&D and in networking/sharing resources and knowledge
- Expanding mentoring, management, and transition skills.

A brief discussion of these issues followed. Mari suggests that feedback be given directly to Vanessa Kam, Chapters Liaison, or to Patricia Barnett, Strategic Planning Committee chair.

In other developments, Central Plains member Rina Vecchiola is on the slate of candidates for the 2011 Executive Board for the role of Development & Membership Liaison. Mari reports that ARLIS/NA’s new organizational structure seems to be working well. There is a task force working on the evaluation of TEI’s performance in managing the organization; it is to be completed by the end of the year. Chris Roper of TEI will be the annual conference manager; Chris has been assigned an assistant to help with ARLIS/NA. Chris attended CPAC and the mid-year board meeting. The application GoToMeeting has been very useful for enabling meetings online, according to Mari.

Old Business
Chapter meeting travel award: Suzy Frechette investigated other chapters’ practices and reports that other chapters have a process for awarding funding to assist with expenses of attending chapter meetings. Considering that there has been a consistently maintained healthy balance in the chapter checking account, Suzy asked whether there is interest for Central Plains establishing such an award, and the response was positive. A volunteer task force consisting of Suzy Frechette, Tom Young and Mari Russell was created for the purpose of recommending a travel award procedure for Central Plains. Membership will consider the task force recommendations at a future meeting.

Membership levels: there was a brief discussion of chapter membership levels vis-à-vis past and current practices of this chapter, and current practices of other chapters. No action taken.

New Business
- Donation to annual conference. We can anticipate seeing a request for the chapter to make a donation to the annual conference (March, 2011) welcome party. In the past, the chapter has donated $75 annually for several years running. There was a discussion on increasing the
amount. Mikael Kriz moved that the chapter donate $150 in 2011; Marianne Cavanaugh seconded; motion carried. With regard to supporting the annual conference, there was mention of donating a Chapter Basket to the fundraising auction. Marianne Cavanaugh volunteered to work on the chapter basket.

- Phil Jones will host the chapter’s spring 2011 meeting. Phil sought feedback on the location; discussion followed. A tentative plan for holding the meeting in Fayetteville, on May 19-20-21 was formed. Phil reports that the University of Arkansas will provide a meeting room at no charge.
- Nominating committee: The posts of Vice Chair/Chair-Elect and Secretary/Treasurer are open in 2011. Suzy asked for volunteers for the nominating committee. M. J. Poehler and Skye Lacerte will serve as the nominating committee.
- New ARLIS/NA Strategic Plan, preliminary goals: discussed during Mari Russell’s report (see above).
- Mikael Kriz asked whether others are interested in a forum on new technologies, noting that art library people tend to be early adopters. There was discussion of how such a forum might operate, with several options mentioned: through a blog, a listserv, ‘Friday chat’ format, Gotomeeting, and/or a wiki platform. Mikael will put the topic on the program for the spring meeting in Fayetteville.

The meeting was adjourned at 10 am.

Respectfully submitted by M. J. Poehler, Secretary-Treasurer