



2008 Proves to be Banner Year for Central Plains Chapter Members Receiving Honors

Susan Craig receives the ARLIS/NA Distinguished Service Award

During the Convocation at the ARLIS/NA Annual Conference in Denver, our own Susan Craig was awarded the highest honor the Society can bestow, the Distinguished Service Award.

In her introductory remarks, Susan's long-time friend Ann Abid related some of Susan's accomplishments, dating back to her first job out of library school as an indexer for Art Index, through her time at the University of California-Berkeley, to her stellar career as head the Murphy Art and Architecture Library at the University of Kansas. Susan is one of a very select group of people to have served twice on the ARLIS/NA Board, serving as Secretary in 1976 and President in 1986. She has served the Society as a whole by being involved with many committees, organizing sessions and presenting papers at conferences, and helping organize three conferences. She spearheaded the reinvigoration and expansion of the Central Plains Chapter in the 1980s, and has organized or hosted many chapter meetings. She is held in the highest esteem by her faculty colleagues at KU for her knowledge, professionalism, and enthusiasm for teaching. As Ann summarized, Susan "represents outstanding and sustained service in all categories required for this award." The Chapter extends its heartiest congratulations to Susan.

Marilyn Russell elected Vice-President/President Elect of ARLIS/NA

Long-time chapter member Marilyn Russell, Ph.D., Library Director at Haskell Indians Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas, has been elected to the ARLIS/NA Executive Board's most prestigious but arduous position. A three-year commitment to hard work and working with many different people and entities is in store. The chapter extends its congratulations and looks forward to having a member on the Board again.

Marianne Cavanaugh receives Elizabeth Owens Award from St. Louis Chapter, SLA

Congratulations also go out to Marianne Cavanaugh, Head Librarian at the Richardson Library of the St. Louis Art Museum. On December 9, 2008 during the annual Holiday Happening of the St. Louis Metro Area Chapter of SLA, Marianne received the Elizabeth Owens Award for distinguished service to the chapter and the profession. This award is only bestowed when a member has shown sustained involvement in supporting and improving the chapter and librarianship; it had not been awarded since 2004.

Fall Meeting in Lincoln

In September 2008, Kay Logan-Peters and her staff welcomed the chapter to the University of Nebraska in Lincoln for the Fall meeting. Highlights of the meeting included Tori Gregory speaking authoritatively and extemporaneously (because she didn't have her laptop) about the history and bibliography of quilts, presentations on the use of Content DM in UNL libraries, and touring the LEED-certified and beautiful new International Quilt Research Center and Museum. The company was convivial, the programming was informative and interesting, and the weather was beautiful.

New officers, by-laws changes approved in Fall election.

A chapter election held in October 2008 resulted in the unanimous approval of the slate of candidates for 2009, resulting in the following officers:

Chair: Tori Gregory, Oklahoma State University
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Margaret Boylan, University of Arkansas
Secretary/Treasurer: M.J. Poehler, Kansas City Art Institute
Past-Chair: Susan Craig, University of Kansas

Also approved were several by-laws changes. Some were necessitated by the reorganization of the ARLIS/NA Board, some were clarifications of current practice, and some were clarifications and additions of officers and chapter appointments. Once they are approved by the ARLIS/NA Executive Board, they will be posted on the chapter's website.

Message from the ARLIS/NA Chapter Coordinator

Cate Cooney of the Winterthur Museum is the first Chapters Coordinator for the reorganized ARLIS/NA Executive Board. In December, she sent a message to ARLIS-L explaining this new role. Briefly, she explained that the Coordinator acts as liaison between the Executive Board and the eighteen chapters, just as the Regional Representatives did. She will respond to questions and issues, and represent the chapters on the board. She will coordinate board representation at chapter meetings, and organize the chapter leaders' meeting at the annual conference. She has been talking with other ARLIS/NA personnel about giving web space to chapters and featuring chapters on the main page of the ARLIS/NA website. "I see the chapters as the lifeblood of ARLIS/NA" she wrote, concluding "I hope you will feel free to get in touch with me with any questions or concerns."

MEMBER NEWS

In addition to the big news of her election to the ARLIS/NA Board, **Marilyn Russell** reports that she participated in the ARLIS/NA Dutch Art Study trip in Amsterdam in October 2008 along with 19 other ARLIS/NA members. It was an exciting trip touring libraries, museums, archives, seeing Dutch art, etc. and networking with librarians from the Netherlands. She also escorted Lea Giles-Peters, State Librarian from Queensland, Australia, to several New Mexico pueblo libraries and the IAIA museum in Santa Fe in July 2008. She attended the Tribal College Librarians Institute in Bozeman, Montana in June 2008. She also advises that the Academic

Support Center at Haskell Indian Nations University has recently purchased laptop computers, a new microfilm/reader printer, new televisions, and some new furniture. Marilyn has her own website at: <http://russell.marilyn.googlepages.com/>

Lois Crane announces her retirement, effective at the end of January 2009, after 31 years at the Wichita Art Museum Library. She does plan to attend the Indianapolis conference, however. The entire chapter wishes her well and hopes she will continue to attend as many meetings as she wants!

Lois also notes the completion of the uploading of her library's catalog records to the Wichita State University Libraries website at <http://libcat.wichita.edu>. All of the book collection, over 2000 artist files, and most serials have been entered. It does not include auction catalogs, except for those dedicated to a specific artist or artisan, or a collection of museum handbooks. The project was completed thanks to a generous grant from The Henry Luce Foundation. As Susan Craig pointed out, "And it's all available through WorldCat to anyone throughout the world." She is already seeing an expanded use of the collection, including a pamphlet on a photographer not published anywhere else, sought by a graduate student at a California university.

Susan Bobo, Architecture Librarian, Oklahoma State University, attended Oklahoma's 20th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference in June 2008, where she gave a brief presentation about her online bibliography project Oklahoma Built (<http://e-achive.library.okstate.edu/>.) Later that month Susan was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure.

Tom Young, Philbrook Art Museum, Tulsa, reports that this past year he was the curator for the exhibition "The Illustrated Book: 1450-1800", held at The Philbrook Museum of Art from Sept. 14 - Dec. 7, 2008. It included 28 books and prints (illustrations that had been removed from books).

In January 2009 Tom begins a three-year term on the committee for the Oklahoma State Art Collection. This is a collection of works of art by Oklahoma artists that was established by the Oklahoma Arts Council in the late 1960s. It opened a gallery space in the Oklahoma State Capitol in September 2008, and will be rotating works from the collection in this space.

Marianne Cavanaugh reports much news from the Richardson Library at the St. Louis Art Museum:

Museum expansion groundbreaking has been postponed until later in 2009. This means the library can remain open to the public most of the year. When the new construction begins the library expects to be closed to the general public for approximately nine months.

The Museum offered early retirement packages to eligible staff this past year. Two library staff members accepted the offer. Slide Curator Cheryl Vogler and Archives Assistant Ann Shuck are now enjoying a new life away from the Museum. Their positions will not be filled. Other library staff members have been fielding requests for images, analog and digital. We are left with more than 70,000 slides in a collection that is essentially frozen until we decide what to do with them. Any advice from the chapter would be happily accepted.

Because of fewer staff, the library has changed its public hours. It is open to the public on Saturdays by advance appointment only.

This past year the library installed new shelving. This addition should last for the next nine to ten years.

Marianne Cavanaugh and Clare Vasquez are looking forward to seeing chapter members at the annual conference in Indianapolis in April.