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### **Chapter List-Serv**

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The chapter now has its own list-serv! It is hosted by the ARLIS/NA management firm, TEI. It is private--only subscribers can receive or submit posts to this list-serv, and it does not have a moderator. Subscriptions are handled by TEI at the direction of the chapter's Secretary/Treasurer. To subscribe or unsubscribe, send a message to the current Secretary/Treasurer.

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### **ARLIS/CP Meeting, Fall 2009, St. Louis, Missouri**

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The chapter held its Fall 2010 meeting in St. Louis, Missouri October 14- 16. Washington University's Modern Graphic History Library (MGHL) hosted the morning Business Meeting and program. For details of the Business Meeting, see the official minutes elsewhere on the chapter's website. One exciting result was that the members in attendance voted to accept Phil Jones' invitation to hold our next chapter meeting in Fayetteville, Arkansas in May. Presentations about the university's archives and special collections were followed by a tour of the MGHL facility and state-of-the-art archives storage area.

After lunch, the group visited the university's Kranzberg Art & Architecture Library and the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum. The group admired the facilities and an impressive small exhibit of some of the treasures in the library's Special Collections. Later, many proceeded to the St. Louis Art Museum, where the new exhibit "Joe Jones, Painter of the American Scene" was on view. Several people also visited the library, being led there through construction areas and back corridors.

The next morning, Rina Vecchiola hosted the group at her home for a light breakfast before moving on to tour the Kraus house, a Frank Lloyd Wright home in the suburb of Kirkwood.

For more details, see the chapter's blog <http://arlisnacp.wordpress.com/>. To see some photos of this meeting, and others, see SuzyF's Flickr Set ARLIS/CP.

# MEMBER NEWS

## ARKANSAS

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### *Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art*

**Catherine Petersen**, Library Director, sends this introductory message to the chapter:

It is hard to believe that I have only been in position as Library Director of Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art since July of this year. I have received such warm support from my colleagues, and the work is so exciting and challenging, that it all feels comfortably right – there couldn't be a better fit for me. I hold an MA in art history, with an emphasis in American art, from the University of Missouri at Kansas City, and I taught art history for over twenty years (I also served as interim Director of the Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art in St. Joseph, Mo.) before receiving my MA in library science from the University of Arizona, Tucson. I moved to Bentonville, Arkansas from Flagstaff, Arizona where I worked as an academic librarian for arts and humanities at Northern Arizona University, Cline Library.

We continue to make great progress towards completion of Crystal Bridges. The library is more completed than some of the other spaces and occupies a large part of the top floor of the museum, overlooking the museum grounds and walking trails. The library collections include over 50,000 art reference titles that will be open stacks for public research and reading. I have spent much of my first months planning for an ILS system and a one-time data retrospective conversion project, and I hope to bring a cataloger on board by the first of the year. We also have a wonderfully rich collection of rare 19<sup>th</sup> century color plate and view books. My hope is to include many of the unique library and archive holdings into programs and exhibits and further engage the community with American art and culture.

The museum's unique architectural design and complex construction site require special expertise, which takes time, but barring any unforeseen challenges, we hope to open in late 2011 or early 2012. I am truly looking forward to meeting my ARLIS/Central Plains Chapter colleagues at the May meeting in Fayetteville. Hopefully you will join me in a guided walk to the museum overlook and perhaps an evening experiencing James Turrell's *Skyspace*.

### *University of Arkansas*

**Phil Jones**, Fine Arts Librarian, reports that Stephanie Hamblenk has been appointed to be the evening supervisor of the Fine Arts Library, and that the University of Arkansas Libraries began participation in ARTstor in June. He looks forward to welcoming the chapter to Fayetteville next spring.

## KANSAS

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### *University of Kansas*

**Susan Craig**, Head of the Murphy Art & Architecture Library, sends this message to chapter members:

Although it meant I missed the ARLIS/CP meeting in St. Louis, I did enjoy a recent collection development/reference trip to London-Brussels-Amsterdam. The purpose of the trip was to visit art museums to see the permanent collections as well as special exhibitions, to visit specialist art book dealers to identify potential purchases for the library, to visit major art libraries and talk with staff about their resources and services, and to reacquaint myself with some of the leading art and architecture centers that so many of our students study and visit. I began by attending the Frieze Art Fair in London, spent time with librarians at the National Art Library and the British Architectural Library, saw a lot of great art in the museums, noted hundreds of titles of books and journals and DVDs that may be ordered for our collection, and spent time talking to specialist dealers about the future of art books and specialist book stores.

I began Phased Retirement at KU July 1 and will be working 75% time for the next 5 years. I will continue as Head of the library and serving as bibliographer/liaison to the departments of Visual Art, Design, Architecture, Urban Planning, and History of Art. My time spent on research and service has been reduced and some duties have been shifted to other staff in the library to accommodate my reduced schedule.

KU recently purchased Module 5 of the Archivision Digital Image Library. The Univ. of Kansas Libraries and the KU School of Architecture, Design & Urban Planning have collaborated in purchasing the base set and all available modules of this high-quality architectural image resource which is displayed through the libraries Image Gateway, <http://www.lib.ku.edu/imagegateway/>. There are also ongoing projects to convert campus slide collections to digital form and add them to the Image Gateway as well.

### *Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence*

**Marilyn Russell**, Library Director, reports that she is keeping busy with ARLIS/NA Presidential duties. She attended conference planning meetings in Minneapolis in July, Mid-Year Executive Board meetings in Santa Fe in September, and an ARLIS/Northwest chapter meeting in Seattle in November.

On the home front at the Library, she hired a full-time Librarian in January, Beverly Fortner, who is working out very well. She is a recent University of Arizona "Knowledge River" graduate.

On the personal level, Mari participated in the ARLIS/NA Art Study trip to London this summer. Twelve ARLIS/NA members took this trip, seeing many art libraries and museums in five days. In October, she took a wonderful vacation, traveling to Munich, Germany and Vienna, Austria.

## NEBRASKA

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### *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*

**Kay Logan-Peters** announces that in June she voluntarily stepped down as Chair of Access and Branch Services and returned to the Architecture Library full time. She also became Coordinator of a new Digital Arts Program. The College of Fine Arts has developed a new program in Digital Arts that is a collaborative effort between the art, theater and music departments. It is not a degree granting program, rather a way to provide hands on experience in using and applying current technology in the arts.

For library purposes, architecture, textiles/fashion, and advertising are included under the "digital arts" umbrella. Basically any student in a creative field who creates a portfolio falls into the Digital Arts definition. Kay's role is to coordinate services to faculty and students in the program, and to make them aware of what the Libraries can do to assist their work. This includes everything from teaching them to use databases to hosting content created by students and faculty in any of these departments. She hasn't found a model program at other institutions, so if anyone else knows of a similar program please let her know!

On a different topic, last year the Architecture Library received a major facelift: new paint, furniture, a new circulation area relocated to the center of the main reading room, and new artwork. It is busier than ever, and students enjoy hanging around the library now. Library staff is about to launch a major assessment of services and facilities that will involve focus groups with students and faculty, surveys, and observational data.

Kay is planning on attending the annual ARLIS/NA conference and looks forward to seeing other chapter members there.

## MISSOURI

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### *Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art*

**Marilyn Carbonell**, Head of the Spencer Art Reference Library, announces the hiring of a new Librarian. As of December 8, 2010, Ms. Tracey Boswell is catalog and reference librarian. She comes to the Nelson-Atkins from Haskell Indian Nations University where she worked as a cataloger. In addition, Tracey was an adjunct faculty member for many years in the art history department at Johnson County Community College. Tracey has an M.L.S. from Emporia State University and an M.A. in art history from the University of Kansas. She attended the 2009 ARLIS/NA annual conference in Indianapolis.

### *St. Louis Art Museum*

**Marianne Cavanaugh**, Head Librarian, Richardson Memorial Library, informs the chapter that two exciting projects will make information about the collection of the Saint Louis Art Museum widely available to scholars and students throughout the world. First, in September 2010,

ARTstor released to their subscribers a collection of over 1,800 images from the Saint Louis Art Museum's collection. The museum hopes to add new images and keep the information up-to-date on a semi-annual basis. Second, JSTOR is in the process of scanning the *Bulletin of the St. Louis Art Museum*. The working deadline to release the scanned pages is in the second quarter of 2011.

Because of the construction of the new Chipperfield Wing at the Saint Louis Art Museum, the Richardson Library continues to be open by appointment only, on Thursdays. We hope to resume our public hours by the middle of 2011.

This past year, the Richardson Library partnered with the Membership Department at the Museum to offer a Members Book Club. It was a successful first year and book selection for 2011 is imminent.

The Library remains actively engaged with the Museum's Education Department by assisting in the design and technical aspects of delivering the SLAM Teacher e-Newsletter and becoming the place for the museum's docents to learn new technologies.

### ***St. Louis Public Library***

**Suzy Frechette**, Head of the Fine Arts Department, reports that the Central Library of the St. Louis Public Library closed for a two-year renovation in July. Suzy and other staff responsible for collections have moved to a large warehouse, along with the entire collection of the building. Hundreds of seven-shelf metal bookshelves hold the equivalent of 22 miles of books and other materials, all on one gigantic floor. The Central departments are not open for business, but Suzy will be happy to help professional colleagues with questions about St. Louis arts subjects. She has no phone, but can be reached by e-mail. She is keeping busy weeding the collection, catching up on filing decades' worth of backlog of local artists and architects files, researching various things about books in the Steedman collection, and much more.

### ***Washington University***

**Rina Vecchiola**, Art & Architecture Librarian at the Kranzberg Art & Architecture Library, has been elected to the ARLIS/NA Executive Board as Development and Membership Liaison. The chapter sends its warmest congratulations to Rina.

## **OKLAHOMA**

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### ***Philbrook Art Museum, Tulsa***

**Tom Young**, Librarian, reports that his library, the H. A. & Mary K. Chapman Library, received in a "Threats to your Collection" grant from the Oklahoma Dept. of Libraries. This grant of \$4004 allowed the library to do two things. (1) Digitize a collection of oral interviews with Native American artists represented in the museum's permanent collection. These interviews were on cassette audiotapes and have been transferred to a digital format. (2) Re-house

approximately 1000 photographs in the library's research collection, ranging in date from the 1880s to 1970s. The majority of the images are of Native Americans, including a small group of photographs of Native American artists. It also enabled the museum staff to re-house archival material in the Eugene Brady Adkins archives into appropriate photograph sleeves, archival file folders and boxes, and a flat-file storage cabinet for oversize materials.