



Canvas

ARLIS / Southern California Newsletter

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From the Chair

Our chapter and its members have kept busy throughout 2009 with a number of meetings, events and projects which are described in the following pages.

We are happy to announce there are 55 current members. We hope the number will keep growing. Don't forget to renew or rejoin for 2010!

For many of us and our institutions this past year has been challenging while we adjust to budget cuts and less staff. We should take the opportunity to remember that our chapter and its membership create an invaluable community where we can share ideas, practices, hints, and tricks of the trade.

Working together toward the possibility of sharing creative solutions to our challenges may not only benefit our day-to-day work as librarians but may even

provide a better service to our users.

One way in which you can share your knowledge in these tough times is become a member of the new ARLIS/SC Facebook page. Although, you can still find chapter related information and news on our blog at <http://arlis-sc.org/>, please join the Facebook page to start relevant discussions or post topics and events that may interest the group!

You may also consider volunteering to participate in the Mentoring Workshop that will be offered by the chapter. Please see the Save the Date details below.

Speaking of the ARLIS/SC blog, when I move into the role of Past-Chair in 2010, I hope to concentrate my efforts on enhancing the blog to include more



content and photos. Stay tuned!

Thank you to the 2008-2009 board members for all their hard work throughout the year. And a special thanks to ARLIS/SC members Heather Cleary and Laurel Bliss for their help in planning the all-day chapter meetings at their respective institutions, Otis College of Art and Design and San Diego State University.

We look forward to the coming year ahead of fruitful meetings, fun events and brilliant ideas!

—Sarah Sherman

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ARLIS/SC now on facebook

You can now find ARLIS Southern California Chapter on Facebook. To join the ARLIS/SC group page, simply search for [ARLIS Southern California Chapter](#). We hope to see you there!

Save the Date!

The Southern California chapter will be facilitating the half-day **ARLIS/NA Career Mentoring Program workshop** on **February 15, 2010** at the Getty Research Institute. Keep your eyes out for information on the ARLIS-CA listserv and ARLIS/SC blog about specific details on how to participate! Students, Young Professionals, Mid-to Late Career Professionals are encouraged to be either mentees or mentors. **Questions? Contact Sarah Sherman**
ssherman@getty.edu

Student Spotlight:

Introducing Recent MLIS graduates: Holly Rose Larson and Teresa Soleau



Holly Rose Larson

My name is **Holly Rose Larson**, and I am a rock-and-roll librarian. Actually, I'm an archivist and preservation specialist, but I also catalog and provide reference service in the arts. Like most returning graduates, I have a diverse background including undergraduate theater studies, singing in a funk band, working as a haute couture seamstress, researching for production and interior designers, and even a stint as a closed captioning editor.

While working on my MLIS at UCLA, I was co-president of ARTiFACTS and became very passionate about the library-archives-museum connection. I would really love to see more interaction, cross-employment, and fellowship within these professions. Between my internships at the Getty Research Institute, the 20th Century Fox Photo Archive, the Academy for Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and from classes like Museum Informatics, I have been more culturally active in Los Angeles as a student than any other time in the past ten years that I've lived here!

The job hunt in this economy took a lot of work, patience, and perseverance, but it has all finally paid off. I am now a Library Assistant in Special Collections Cataloging at the Getty Research Institute. Still, give me a call if your vinyl collection needs to be organized!

Teresa Soleau



Teresa Soleau

I will complete my MLIS degree at UCLA this December with a concentration on Art Informatics. Prior to and throughout finishing the program, I have worked with serials and cataloging auction sales catalogs at the Getty Research Institute. Although it has taken me a bit longer to finish my MLIS, I appreciated being able to apply concepts to daily work right away. In my culminating portfolio I focus on ways that libraries, archives and museums can collaborate in the creation and dissemination of metadata about digital content to increase their visibility and relevancy online in the Digital Age.

I have been involved with ARTiFACTS as the Treasurer throughout my time at UCLA and have really enjoyed the brown bags and tours we have organized. During the program I completed two internships - one with the Getty Vocabularies entering terms into all three vocabularies and one in Occidental College Special Collections determining the best way to contribute their digital objects into the Online Archive of California. Both of the internships allowed me to test out different work environments and job duties to more fully develop my career goals.

After earning my degree, I hope to find a position working in an Arts institution on resource description, digital library initiatives or in a reference and instruction capacity. Whether it be through information literacy instruction, effective resource description or more efficient information systems, my passion lies in helping users gain access to the materials they seek, particularly art-related materials.

Mark Your Calendars!

The 38th annual ARLIS/NA conference

Revolution and Innovation: At the Hub of Discovery will be held
April 23-26, 2010 in Boston, Massachusetts.

For more information, visit the conference website:

<http://www.arlisna.org/boston2010/>.

Canvas Profile: Introducing new ARLIS/SC members



Virginia Allison has been the Research Librarian for Visual Arts (Studio Art, Art History, Film and Media Studies,

and Visual Studies) and Dance at The University of California, Irvine since August 2008. She arrived from Watkins College of Art and Design in Nashville, where she was Assistant Librarian/Visual Resources Curator. In this capacity, she built a searchable digital archive of student and copy work, launched a library instruction program, and curated an enviable zine collection. At the UC Irvine Libraries, she chairs the Exhibits Team and is actively involved in instruction, collection development, reference, and research. Her research interests meet at the intersection of new media and visual

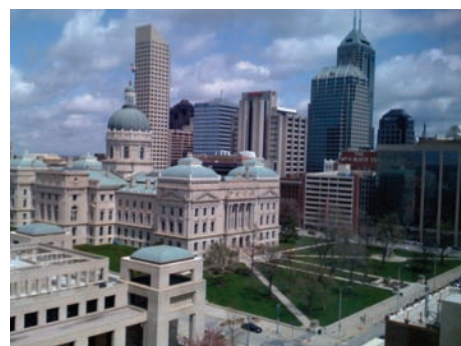
literacy. In the spring of 2008, she won a travel award to attend the annual Visual Resources Association conference. As a member of ARLIS/SC, she volunteered to serve on the 2008 Travel Awards Committee and is currently a mentor for the ARLIS/NA year-long mentoring program. She also serves as the co-moderator of ARLIS/NA's Reference Instruction Services Section (RISS). She has a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Alabama and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Montevallo (Alabama).

37th Annual ARLIS/NA Conference

The 2009 annual ARLIS/NA conference converged in the "Circle City" of Indianapolis Indiana. While taking in the various Indianapolis attractions, ARLIS/NA members participated in diverse workshops, sessions, and tours. On April 18, chapter members met to celebrate our travel award winners Leanne Hindmarch and Allison R. Schulte.

We are proud to say, yet again, that a large contingent of Southern California Chapter members and their colleagues contributed to the success of the conference through their involvement in various workshops, sessions, and poster presentations.

- **Shilpa Rele** (University of Miami) and **Sarah Sherman** (Getty Research Institute) co-moderated the workshop, *Creating Effective Resumes, Cover Letters and Job Searching Skills*, which included a talk by **Janine Henri** (UCLA, Arts Library) and resume reviewers **Virginia Allison** (UC Irvine) and **Cathy Billings** (Brand Library & Art Center).
- **Virginia Allison**, **Cathy Billings**, **Alyssa Resnick** (Brand Library & Art Center), and **Sarah Sherman** participated as mentors in the ARLIS/NA Career Mentoring Program workshop.
- **Alyssa Resnick** was moderator of the session *The Evolving Art Librarian: Convergence of our Traditional Roles* as well as a speaker with a talk entitled *The Perspective of the Public Art Librarian*. **Laurel Bliss** (San Diego State University) spoke on the topic *The Perspective of the New Art Librarian*.
- **Barbara Furbush** (Getty Research Institute) presented a poster *Rounding Up Images*.
- *Cultural Objects Name Authority (CONA): A New Getty Vocabulary in Development* was presented by **Patricia Harpring** (Getty Research Institute) as part of the session *Discovery on the Side of the Virtual Wall: Evolving Authority Control Resources and Techniques in the Digital Age*.
- **Leanne Hindmarch** (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo) presented *Liaison Relationships in Practice: Connecting with Architecture Faculty in a Polytechnic Environment* at the session *Working Together, Working Better: Liaison Relationships for Art, Architecture, and Visual Resources*.
- **Allison R. Schulte's** (Tom of Finland) talk *Promoting "Information Cruising" at the Tom of Finland Foundation* was part of the session *Hot and Bothered: Erotica in the Library and Museum Context*.
- In the *New Voices in the Profession* session, **Maureen Whalen** (J. Paul Getty Trust) presented *What's Wrong with This Picture? An Examination of Art Historians' Attitudes about Electronic Publishing Opportunities and the Consequences of their Continuing Love Affair with Print*.
- **Sally McKay** (Getty Research Institute) and **Barbara Rominski** (San Francisco Museum of Modern Art) co-presented *Artist Files Aggregated: The Artist Files Online Directory* in the session *Where Libraries and Archives Converge: Artists Files*.



Conference proceeding, programs, and photographs can be found at
http://www.arlisna.org/news/conferences/2009/proceed_index.html.

Business Meetings

This year we have followed a new format in our chapter meetings to include presentations by our members. Expanding our meetings to include talks on topics relevant to the profession has benefited both the speakers and the membership, especially those members who may not be able to travel to the ARLIS/NA annual conference.

The first chapter meeting of the year

was held at the **Otis College of Art and Design** in Los Angeles on June 12, 2009. It was a joint meeting with Visual Resources Association/Southern California chapter and the Southern California Special Collections Catalogers group. The full day began with a talk by Jonathan Ward, editor of the Getty Vocabularies, who discussed the Getty Vocabulary program and introduced the newest vocabulary, CONA (Cultural Objects Name Authority). Following was the talk *Sustaining Digital Legacies: What Does It Take?* by Victoria McCargar. The group had the opportunity to tour the Ben Maltz Gallery, Millard Sheets Library, and Otis Laboratory Press. After lunch and the business meet-

ing, there was a lively roundtable discussion, moderated by John Trendler, about what new technologies various local librarians are using at their institutions. For business meeting minutes please visit <http://arlis-sc.org/2009/06/arlis-southern-california-chapter-meeting-minutes-june-12-2009/>.

The second chapter meeting

was held at **San Diego State University** on November 6, 2009. The day began with a keynote address from Rob Sidner, Director of the Mingei International Museum in Balboa Park. In his hour-long talk Mr. Sanger explained the Mingei's mission to display and collect folk art, craft and design as well as showed highlights from the collection and

current exhibitions. Following the business meeting and lunch, three ARLIS/SC members spoke on various topics: Maureen Burns (UC Irvine, retired) talked about the VRA White Paper and Transitions, Virginia Allison (UC Irvine) give a presentation on *Time Management for Creative Types* and Leslie Abrams, Head of the Arts Library at UC San Diego, talked to us about the newly renovated Arts Library. We ended the day with a visit to SDSU's Special Collections Reading Room to view collection highlights related to the arts. For more information about meeting please visit <http://arlis-sc.org/2009/12/arlis-southern-california-chapter-meeting-minutes-november-6-2009/>.

ARLIS/SC meetings and events are a great way to stay connected with colleagues, meet new people, and visit the best art and visual resources institutions in the Southland!

**Not a member of ARLIS/SC?
Need to renew your 2010 membership?**

Visit

<http://arlis-sc.org/about/membership/>
for the membership form.

Membership runs January-December. Forms received after October 1st will be applied to the following year. Fill out the form online, print it and send it in with a small membership fee of \$15 (students are free!). It's that simple!



Victoria McCargar speaks to a rapt audience at Otis



Exploring Special Collections at SDSU



Member speakers at SDSU (L-R) Virginia, Leslie and Maureen

Chapter Awards

Our winners describe in their own words what the ARLIS/SC Chapter travel awards meant to them.

This year's **ARLIS/SC Judith A. Hoffberg Travel Award** went to **Leanne Hindmarch**:

I was thrilled to have the opportunity, during such trying financial times, to attend the ARLIS/NA Conference in Indianapolis to give my first professional presentation, *Liaison Relationships in Practice: Connecting with Architecture Faculty in a Polytechnic Environment*. I have been a member of ARLIS/NA since 2007 when I moved from Canada to California for a position as Architecture and Environmental Design Librarian at California Polytechnic State University. After two wonderful years in California, I relocated back to Toronto, Canada, for a position as Data and Geospatial Librarian with the Ontario Council of University Libraries' Scholars Portal Program. I continue to hold art and architecture dear to my heart, and plan to keep in touch with my ARLIS/NA friends and colleagues. My first peer-reviewed article will appear in **Art Documentation** this fall, entitled *The Academic Library and Collaborative Architectural Education: Creating a Materials Collection at Cal Poly*.



Leanne Hindmarch



Catherine Johnson-Roehr/Allison R. Schulte

This year's **ARLIS/SC Student Travel Award** went to **Allison R. Schulte**:

I am a full-time student at San Jose University and the Head Librarian for the Tom of Finland Foundation in Los Angeles. I joined ARLIS/SC in 2008 and have been regularly attending meetings since. Through the chapter, I have acquired several valuable mentors who advise me in both in my work at the Foundation and my path as a student. My most influential mentor was the late Judy Hoffberg, who inspired me to apply for this award. The last time we spoke, Judy told me about how she saw Tom of Finland's original work in a group exhibition "many years ago", where his art was segregated and censored behind "extra" gallery walls. Judy offered our Foundation advice and support on a regular basis. It meant a great deal to me on both a professional and personal level, to speak about the Tom of Finland

Foundation at the *Hot and Bothers: Erotica in the Museum and Library Context* panel with the assistance of the Student Travel Award at the ARLIS/NA annual conference this year. At the conference I was introduced to BJ Irvine (Librarian Emeritus, Indiana University) and Catherine Johnson-Roehr (Curator for the Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender and Reproduction) both who are continuing to mentor me in my passion for archiving erotic art.

Northern Exposure: News from the ARLIS Northern California Chapter

The last year has been a full and eventful one for your colleagues in Northern California. **Last fall's meeting** included a walking tour of Oakland's Art Deco architecture and a visit to the Oakland Museum library hosted by curator of American art Dr. Phil Linhares. Highlights of its library collection include the Dorothea Lange archives. That same afternoon we visited the African American Museum & Library at Oakland, part of the Oakland Public Library. Staff introduced the history and collection highlights of the library and archives, which has been called "the Schomburg of the West." Afterwards, curator Hanna Regev led attendees through the exhibit, *Banned & Recovered: Artists Respond to Censorship*. Mary V. Marsh, one of the artists (and ARLIS/NC member), shared her own experience creating work for the exhibit. After time out for refreshment, some of us went on to visit Oakland art

galleries as part of the monthly Art Murmur.

Our **Spring meeting** took place at UC Berkeley. Following our business meeting, we had an excellent panel discussion on library exhibition, design, and curating. Kate Connell, library exhibition curator at City College San Francisco, discussed the rich ties between the library exhibits and the college community. Hannah Tashjian, UCB library preservationist, discussed how to prevent the damage that materials are subject to when on exhibit. Miranda Hambro, of UCB Environmental Design Archives, reflected on curatorial challenges such as time planning, working with guest curators, and creating a narrative for the exhibit. And Aisha Hamilton, UCB graphic designer/exhibit coordinator, shared her experiences managing multiple exhibit cases in several libraries. Then we were treated

to tours of the new UCB East Asian Library, the new Jean Gray Hargrove Music Library, and the recently renovated Environmental Design Library.

Over the summer, a small but enthusiastic group of ARLISers visited art galleries during the Estuary Art Attack, in Alameda, CA. After a visit to the Speisekammer Beer Garden, we took in several galleries, including Autobody Fine Art, Forrealism Studios, and K Gallery @ Rhythmix. We found a lively and diverse art scene, friendly artists, and artworks in many media.

This year, the chapter moved its web presence to <http://arlisnanc.blogspot.com/>. Please visit to see details about the events discussed here and to see pictures from our events and meetings on our Flickr page.

—Lisa Valerde, Chair,
Northern California Chapter

From the Board Chapters Liaison

Dear ARLIS/NA Southern California Chapter members:

It's an honor for me to contribute this entry to your newsletter!

The [ARLIS/NA Executive Board](#) had its mid-year meeting on September 24-25 at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. The meeting confirmed just how vibrant members of ARLIS/NA and its chapters are! One of the most exciting things we discussed was the upcoming annual conference in Boston, April 23-26, 2010. The call for papers format has resulted in what will most likely be very dynamic and compelling sessions! The hotel looks divine and the food will be ample and scrumptious. All of that plus networking with your colleagues equals a fantastic conference! I hope that you all can come and that you spread the word!

Speaking of spreading the word about ARLIS/NA and the benefits of membership, Darin Murphy, Librarian at the W. Van Alan Clark Library at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, put together an eloquent call to chapter membership. Given that just about every chapter is concerned about membership in these difficult economic times, I thought I'd share with you some strategies that Darin has for not only maintaining chapter membership, but boosting it. I quote:

The economic downturn is certainly affecting our profession locally, nationally, and internationally. While many individuals and institutions have felt the worst of it already, there continue to be new occurrences of art library reductions and closings posted on ARLIS-L. With this in mind I would like to remind everyone of the tremendous value of professional communications with our peers and ask that each of you not only renew your memberships again this year but encourage the folks you work with to do the same. Also, please consider volunteering to serve on the board once nominations are being sought.

Recently, while lunching with an ARLIS friend and colleague, I was asked why her library employees should join the local or national organization. It is a good question. While it might not be for everyone, membership, or more accurately, professional development within ARLIS can save us all the task of reinventing the wheel. A brief conversation on the phone with an ARLIS colleague can be informative, helpful, and often delightfully entertaining. It can also save your institution time and money. Additionally, especially with budget cuts affecting so many art libraries, membership can also be a way to remain committed to the field, committed to our network of colleagues, and provide us with a means to advocate for our profession, together.

To add to Darin's inspiring words, other strategies for revitalizing chapter memberships include making your presence known at any local library schools and reaching out to MLIS students. ARLIS/NA chapters offer great mentoring opportunities for students considering a career in art libraries and visual resource centres. Plus the chapters benefit from having the energy and ideas of new members still in library school and closest to the cutting edge of library scholarship/emerging technologies, and more!

Technical Enterprises, Inc. (TEI), our new management firm, has worked hard to ensure a smooth transition to their services. Should you have any questions about chapter websites, dues collection, or other services that TEI has offered to chapters, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Because of economic hardship and its detrimental effect on travel budgets, some chapters will be holding their meetings virtually this year. The ARLIS/NA Executive Board members will be participating in some of these virtual meetings and is keenly interested in the technology used at these meetings. Speaking for myself, I'm curious to see if other chapters could benefit from the technologies used and if they might have even wider uses within ARLIS/NA. I'll keep you posted on what I find and I hope to see you in Boston!

My best,

Vanessa Kam, Chapters Liaison, ARLIS/NA
Head, Art + Architecture + Planning Library
University of British Columbia
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News and Notes from ARLIS/SC Members

Tom of Finland Foundation from Allison R. Schulte

The **Tom of Finland Foundation Library** had an exciting year. Our librarian, Allison R. Schulte, received the Special Libraries Association (SLA) Karen Sternheim Memorial Scholarship, and both an ARLIS/NA and ARLIS/SC student travel award. Our cataloger, Marti Pike, has completed a custom call number system for our book collection. And using Facebook we've raised enough money to set up a CatExpress account with OCLC and are now beginning to enter records. Our reading group coordinator, Katie Herzog, put together some fantastic meetings, including the most recent meeting – “do muscles have gender” – with guest speaker and champion body builder Goddess Heather. We are now exploring fundraising opportunities to support the acquisition of a Linux compatible computer to support an ILS Koha database. We welcome your suggestions and advice with regard to setting up our Koha system. Stay tuned for our announcement about our new OPAC – coming soon!!

www.tomoffinlandfoundation.org/

Brand Library & Art Center from Alyssa Resnick

The Glendale City Council approved hiring the architectural firm of **Gruen Associates** to complete the design of a major renovation of Brand Library. Gruen Associates' Los Angeles area projects include Pasadena City College's Shatford Library, Union Station, the Museum of Contemporary Art, and the Hollywood Bowl, to name a few. The Brand Library renovation will include a seismic upgrade, upgrades to the mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, ADA upgrades, and a space utilization plan for the library. This announcement comes at the very beginning of the project and further details, timelines and progress will be available as the project gets underway! Updates will be posted on our website:

www.brandlibrary.org/ArchitectForRenovationApproved.asp.

Craft and Folk Art Museum (CAFAM) from Joan Benedetti

After 12 Years, Craft & Folk Art Museum Archives Processing Almost Finished

In 1997, the trustees of the Craft and Folk Art Museum (CAFAM) decided the museum would have to close. Staff had been cut several times and it was finally decided that the only viable alternative was closure.

Joan Benedetti, CAFAM Museum Librarian for 21 years, was packing up the library for its delivery to the LACMA Research Library. Although Benedetti had been keeping what she called a “CAFAM Archive” in the library, consisting mostly of CAFAM publications and other printed materials, she had never considered that the library was responsible for staff files. But now that the museum was closing, what should happen to them? How many were there anyway?

Suffice it to say, the “staff files” comprised 270 cartons of paper files, photographs, slides, audio- and videotapes, and even a few films from what was 32 years' worth of the history, first as a commercial gallery and restaurant, The Egg and The Eye Gallery (1965 – 1975), and then the Craft and Folk Art Museum (1975 – 1997).

Although CAFAM re-opened fourteen months later in April 1999, the library and the “staff files” were located in a leased building that could not be maintained. The CAFAM Archives were taken by what was at the time UCLA's Arts Special Collections (ASC), administered by Al Willis. Benedetti went to work part-time for the LACMA Research Library and put in half a day a week at ASC, sorting the cartons into record groups. She retired from LACMA at the end of 2002 and began going to ASC two days a week, beginning to refolder the collection into acid-free folders and to create finding aids using Microsoft Word. A former CAFAM library assistant, Michelle Arens, came in to help occasionally.

By the end of 2008, more than half of the collection had been processed. At that point, as part of a restructuring, UCLA Special Collections took over the visual art collections housed in ASC. The CAFAM collection then came to the attention of Kelley Bachli, Coordinator of the Center for Primary Research and Training (CFPR), a unit within Special Collections that hires graduate students to process collections that would otherwise languish. Within a few weeks, a student from UCLA's Department of Information Studies, Linda Klouzal, was hired to work on the CAFAM Archives with Benedetti. At the same time, Joan started working three days a week. Together, Klouzal and Benedetti processed over ninety cartons. An Access database was created into which the Word finding aids were transferred, and which will eventually be online. As file folder headings are input into the database and the new document boxes are filled up, they are transferred to SRLF (the Southern Regional Library Facility) on the UCLA campus, where they should be available for research in 2010. www.cafam.org/index.html

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L-R: Alyssa Resnick, Sarah Sherman, Robert Gore, Cathy Billings

ARLIS/SC is the Southern California Chapter of the **Art Libraries Society of North America**.

Founded in 1974, the Chapter is proud to continue providing programs and networking opportunities to our members who include librarians, archivists, curators, and friends from the Southern California area, from San Diego to Santa Barbara.

arlis.sc.org

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ARLIS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA