

ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTURE SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 1995

Annual Meeting Summarized

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1995

Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture Opening Session

Professor Doug Kallbah, University of Washington, welcomed the conferees to Seattle and presented an overview of the city's architecture. He explained that the rain, the moderate temperatures, the trees, and the mountains all effect Seattle's entertainment, clothes, and architecture. It is a city that prefers competence and craft to the spectacular. The middle class has not fled this city. Kallbah's slides provided examples of craftsman bungalows, Tudor and Swiss influences, and colorful gardens designed by the Olmsted Brothers.

ACSA Keynote Address

Carlos Jimenez, Houston architect and faculty member, reflected on architecture of the recent past. Buildings are being destroyed that cannot be replaced. He urged a rediscovering of site and a concern for human scale.

AASL Welcome

Jeneice Smith, vice president/president elect welcomed 18 members to the 17th annual meeting. The theme, Techniques and Technologies, would be developed by speakers, group discussion, tours, and social activities.

Attendees

Anita Anderson, Illinois Institute of Technology
Kathy Brackney, Georgia Institute of Technology
Francis Chen, Princeton University
Astrid Colon, University of Puerto Rico
Linda Harvey, Tuskegee University
Michael Leininger, Massachusetts Institute of
Technology
Kay Logan-Peters, University of Nebraska, Lincoln
Michael Lordi, California College of Arts and Crafts
Wayne Meyer, Ball State University
Joon Mornes, University of Minnesota
Berna Neal, Arizona State University
Katherine Richards, Woodburn University
Tatiana Schneider, Carleton University
Jeneice Smith, Florida A&M University
Martha Steward, formerly of California Polytechnic
State University, now retired.
Betty Wagner, University of Washington
Patricia Weisenburger, Kansas State University
Emilie White, Mississippi State University

ACSA President's Reception

The reception was held in the Sheraton Hotel's ballroom which commanded a spectacular view of Seattle. Following hors d'oeuvres, beverages, and conversation, the 1995 Topaz Medallion was presented to Henry N. Cobb, former chair of the Harvard Department of Architecture.



SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 1995

Session I: Architecture Libraries and Librarians

Jeneice Smith (Florida A&M) posed several questions regarding the architecture librarian: Is a degree in architecture necessary? How important are faculty status and tenure? Should AASL establish minimum qualifications for architecture librarians? A lively discussion followed.

Session 2: Bibliographic Instruction in Architecture Schools

Frances Chen (Princeton) explained the process she follows. Two or three instructional periods are offered early in the fall semester to explain the online catalog and the circulation system. She presents an overview of about 50 databases available via the Local Area Network and then a detailed explanation of the Avery Index, the Art Index, and Lexis/Nexis, all on CDROM. Discussion followed concerning instruction to research methods classes and to individuals. Several methods of teaching the use of the Avery Index-CD were shared.

Session 3: An Academic Curriculum Program in Design Firm Administration

Terry Bolender, a member of the Society of Design Firm Administration and employed by a large construction company, explained the need to establish qualifications for the support staff in design firms. The Society which meets in conjunction with the AIA, has established a program for certification and is working towards the establishment of a degree in design firm management. She referred the group to the third edition of the Handbook of Design Office Management.

Session 4: Visits to the Seattle Art Museum and Pioneer Square.

The Art Museum has recognized collections of Asian, African, and Pacific Northwest modern art. Pioneer Square is a historic district of red-brick buildings housing restaurants, theaters, and antique and craft galleries.



MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1995

Session I: AASL BUSINESS MEETING

**ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTURE SCHOOL LIBRARIANS
17TH ANNUAL MEETING, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

(1) The Minutes of the 16th Annual Meeting, submitted by Shannon Paul, were approved.

(2) The Treasurer's Report, prepared by Ilene Frank, was presented by Kathy Brackney. The AASL CD is now worth \$1873.17. Total current assets, excluding Seattle receipts and expenditures, come to \$3662.25. The Report was approved.

(3) The Nominating Committee Report was presented by Chairperson Anita Anderson. Elections results: Vice-President/President-elect: Wayne Meyer, Ball State; Secretary: Michael Leininger, MIT. Anita spoke of the problems of finding willing nominees, citing four refusals for the Secretary's position, and urged people to consider more fully the need to pitch in.

(4) Old Business

(a) AASL-L: Kay Logan-Peters, List-owner, cited recent problems with list maintenance and urged that, should subscribers find themselves dropped, they should resubscribe or report problems to her (kaylp@unllib.unl.edu).

(b) AASL Directory: The directory is for sale to non-members at \$10 but is currently in the hands of former Treasurer Gertis Fenuku. Jeneice Smith will get in touch with her and have them shipped to Treasurer Kathy Brackney.

This prompted questions about Vinson McKenzie's whereabouts. He is living in Atlanta and has founded the Archives of African-American Architecture. Kay will post his address to AASL-L.

(c) Core List of Periodicals: Logan-Peters, Weisenburger, and Leininger met and finalized the core list of titles, which will include a

list of "not core but highly recommended" international titles. The list of titles will be annotated by this group, who will then attempt to publish it, first in the Journal of Architectural Education, and later, perhaps, elsewhere (CPL Bibliographies?) Leininger will also post titles on the Web and will announce the URL on AASL-L.

(5) New Business

(A) AASL Brochure: Logan-Peters suggested that we produce a small color brochure describing AASL, including some organizational history. This could be used to promote new memberships and to satisfy inquiries from outside the membership.

(B) Conference Planning in the Future:

(1) Jeneice Smith suggested that conference planning is too large an assignment for one person. A discussion considered the formation of a planning committee either formally or informally and former presidents offered ideas from their experiences in seeking others' help. Local tour helpers and farming out responsibility for specific panels were suggested.

(2) As Archivist/Records Manager, Leininger will initiate annual mailings to incoming officers, informing them of their duties and a suggested time schedule. Much of this material was assembled by Kathy Johnson in the late-80's but distribution had been informal.

(3) It was agreed that a single mailing in January should include the provisional conference agenda, the officers ballot, and the conference registration form. The Treasurer will handle this.

(4) Wayne Meyer spoke about ideas for the Boston meeting in 1996. Use of an electronic classroom for internet demos and a look at other disciplines and specialties such as planning, landscape, or historic preservation are being considered. Leininger will help with the planning of tours in Boston.

AASL DIRECT:

About 10-12 people met at Salut , an Italian restaurant, for dinner and an evening of jazz. Many of Seattle's best jazz musicians took turns on the bandstand.

1996 AASL Meeting: March 9-12, Boston, Massachusetts. Vice President/President-elect Wayne Meyer (Ball State) is the program chairperson.

Patricia Weisenburger
Newsletter Editor
Weigel Library of Architecture, Planning, and Design
Kansas State University
Manhattan, Kansas
66506