



NEWSLETTER SUMMER 1996

Annual Meeting summarized

The 18th annual AASL meeting opened on Saturday March 9, 1996 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, in conjunction with the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture. Harvard's GSD Professor of Practice Alex Krieger introduced the conferees to Boston with slides and commentary. Steven Holl, architect, author, and winner of many international design competitions, presented the keynote address. The two-day blizzard prevented some members from attending the opening session and kept them waiting at various cities across the country for Logan Airport to reopen.

Program Chair/President Elect Wayne Meyer (Ball State) arranged a schedule of informative AASL meetings that emphasized electronic resources. Attending the meetings was more of a challenge than past years because they all were held at Harvard or MIT instead of the conference hotel. Maps with directions to subways and bus stops enabled the members to find their way with not too much trouble. Trudging through snow and slush added charm to the urban setting.

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Sunday, March 10 the topic for discussion was the Internet/World Wide Web resources for architecture, planning, and design. Using

the facilities of an electronic classroom at MIT, Michael Leininger (MIT) demonstrated helpful architecture sites. He cautioned that there is "lots of junk on the Web. Not much is currently useful to architecture students." Three sites that he considered among the best are the Planning and Architecture Internet Resource Center, the Architecture Virtual Library, and Jeanne Brown's Guide to Architecture and Building Sources.

Randy Bairnsfather (MIT) discussed the advantages and disadvantages of sites for planning, census, environmental, housing, transportation and map information. She pointed out that home pages are good public relations, but to be successful, each must be different from all the others. A few of the sites mentioned were Planning Resources on the Internet, City Net, Daily News on the Internet, and Planet Earth.

Katherine Poole (MIT) presented an overview of image collections on the Internet and discussed technical issues, viewing options, image manipulation, and copyright concerns. The sites included Acanthus, Virtual Gallery, art serve, and SILLS.

All three presenters accompanied their demonstrations with lists of the sites and their addresses.

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A tour of the Boston Public Library and Copley Square was held in the afternoon. William Barry, Jr., the project architect from Shepley Bullfinch Richardson and Abbott, explained the three-stage restoration project of the Library with a series of slides. The goal was to meet the technical requirements

of the Library without violating the original design. He escorted the group through the old and new buildings, noting the problems confronting the architects and the solutions.

Chip Piatti, architectural theoretician and educator at the Boston Architectural Center, conducted a detailed tour of Richardson's Trinity Church and the Hancock Tower. The tour concluded at the Hancock Observation Deck where Piatti identified various points of interest such as Fenway Park and the famous CITGO sign.

The library staff of the Boston Architectural Center invited AASL to the library for sherry, hors d'oeuvres, and conversation. Then the group moved on to the Back Bay Brewery for dinner. The food was excellent and the desserts were spectacular.

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On Monday, March 11 the sessions were held at Loeb Library, Harvard Graduate School of Design. Ilene Frank (South Florida) posed the question "How can I find a solar angle calculator?" to explain several World Wide Web search engines. She says these indexing tools are abundant on the Web and are always changing. Some hints that she offered are to use more than one search engine and to use synonyms, personal names, and alternate spellings to achieve a successful search. Some of the engines she demonstrated were Open Text, Infoseek, Excite, NlightN, and Yahoo.

After a coffee break, the topic for discussion was digitalization of images for architecture, art, and design. Kathy Brackney (Georgia Tech) explained the creation at her library three years ago of a database of images that has not met the needs of her users.

Problems to be solved are funding for staff to maintain the database and the difficulty of obtaining permission from each photographer to use the images.

Kay Logan-Peters (Nebraska) offered observations following her experience creating an image database. She noted that the quality of the image is not as good as the image a slide can project. The copyright laws make copying images from books difficult. She suggested that another image site on the Web is of questionable value.

Angela Giral (Columbia), drawing on her long experience with the automation of visual materials, discussed the MESSL project, technical roadblocks, cooperative ventures, changes in funding over time, and the time needed to complete a project running into constant change in the field. She set forth the need for cataloging standards and explained the video disk of architectural drawings at the Avery Library. The images are not perfect but good enough for the user to decide if he/she wants to see the actual drawing.

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Hugh Wilburn (Harvard) conducted a tour of some of the significant buildings in the Harvard Yard. First on the list was Memorial Hall which houses the Great Hall (Freshman Union) and Sanders Theatre. Other stops were the Sackler Museum, the Fogg Art Museum, the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, and Memorial Church.

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After free time to explore the two campuses, the AASL business meeting was held at Rotch Library at MIT.

MINUTES
MARCH 11, 1996
CAMBRIDGE, MA

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:15 by AASL President Jeneice Smith.
2. The Minutes of the Meeting, 20 March, 1995 (Seattle) were submitted by AASL Secretary Michael Leininger and accepted without change.
3. The Annual Treasurer's Report was submitted by AASL Treasurer Kathy Brackney and accepted without change.
4. Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, Joon Moornes reported on the work of her committee, including Emilie White and Norma Sellman. Ann Scott of Kansas State has accepted nomination as Vice President/President-Elect for 1996. E-mail ballots were distributed to members via AASL-L. Paper ballots will be mailed to members without e-mail. Official election results will be announced shortly thereafter.

In addition, Kathy Demsky of Andrews University has expressed interest in nomination for Vice President/President-Elect for 1997.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. The AASL brochure, an idea introduced at previous meetings, will be pursued by a committee to be headed by President Wayne Meyer. Volunteers for the committee include Beth Dodd, Judy Connorton, and Michael Leininger. Adequate funds will be appropriated for a paper brochure/new

members' packet. An AASL homepage will be produced in tandem with the brochure.

B. The AASL Directory, now exclusively in electronic format, may be reproduced in hard copy for members and outsiders without web access. Michael Leininger will proceed to investigate.

C. The Core List of Periodicals is nearly ready for publication. An introductory essay still needs to be written. Pat Weisenburger and Michael Leininger will proceed. JAE and SAH Journal were mentioned as possible titles for publication of the List.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Wayne Meyer introduced Ed Teague's letter of invitation, on behalf of ARLIS/NA, to become an affiliate organization. Members of each organization may attend each other's meetings at members' fees. Betsy Peck Learned, a member of the ARLIS Executive Board, suggested that public policy concerns, as well as joint projects that have already been completed, highlight the natural affiliation that already exists. The motion to accept invitation was carried.

B. Wayne Meyer also mentioned AAL's continuing desire to merge with AASL. AASL members continue to feel that their academic interests are best served by the relationship with ACSA and rejected the merger once again.

C. A website for architecture was discussed, both as a reduction of dependence on others' efforts and as a possible improvement on others' work. Dan Tasman's Buffalo page was cited as the current "exhaustive" site in our field. Whether it was considered the best that can be accomplished, and whether it will

continue to be maintained after Tasman leaves school, are issues warranting consideration. It was agreed that AASL is the logical organization to take charge in this area. The group also agreed that, whatever form this effort takes, the most appropriate leader is Jeanne Brown. A Board of Directors was suggested. A call for volunteers for subject-related segments was suggested. Maintenance issues were highlighted. Consultation with Tasman regarding the future of his site and/or his interest in our project, was suggested. Due to Jeanne's inability to attend the Business Meeting, further ideas from her are awaited.

D. Joon Moornes requests that the Nominating Committee needs more time to complete its task and should be appointed earlier in the year.

E. Jeneice Smith suggested a future membership card.

F. Pat Weisenburger urged that any interesting members' news should be sent along to her for the Newsletter.

G. Wayne Meyer suggested "theft and mutilation (of library materials)" as a possible future topic.

7. The Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 by Jeneice Smith.

Submitted by AASL Secretary Michael Leininger, MIT.

AASL TREASURER'S REPORT 2/28/95-3/6/96

Checking Account balance on hand as of 2/28/95:
\$1789.08

Less Expenses:

3/17/95	Refund for dues overpayment (L. Harvey)	(8.00)
4/4/95	Postage-newsletter (Pat Weisenburger)	(13.67)
4/10/95	Reimbursement for group dinner- '95 conf. (K. Logan-Peters)	(178.23)
9/26/95	Newsletter expenses (Pat Weisenburger)	(110.80)
2/13/96	'96 Conference mailing (postage, copying) (W. Meyer)	(123.17)
9/15/95	Bank service charge	<u>(47.27)</u>
2/29/96		
	Total Expenses	(481.14)

Plus Deposits (Dues and Conference Registration Fees,
1995/1996):

3/16/95		372.00
3/24/95		190.00
4/4/95		438.00
4/18/95		82.00
6/6/95		16.00
7/5/95		10.00
8/10/95		8.00
11/1/95		8.00
3/6/96		<u>966.00</u>
	Total Deposits	2090.00

Ending Balance **3397.94**

Certificate of Deposit (1/9/96) **+1964.74**

Total Assets **\$5362.68**

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Following the business meeting, Pat Weisenburger (Kansas State) presented an overview of her sabbatical leave visiting 23 Chicago-area libraries with significant collections in architecture and/or design to examine facilities, technologies, and collaborative collection development activities. She also explained the index to the exhibition catalogs of the Chicago Architectural Sketch Club, 1894-1928 which she prepared for the Burnham Architecture Library at the Art Institute of Chicago.

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The final session, Historic Preservation in Boston, was held Tuesday, March 12. Jennifer Goodman from the Boston Preservation Alliance presented an overview using slides to show preservation efforts in Boston. This was followed by a tour of the major points on the Freedom Trail conducted by a park ranger who regaled the group with history and humor with stops at Faneuil Hall, South Meeting House, North Church, Old Corner Bookstore, and Paul Revere's House.

The concluding activity of the annual meeting was lunch at Durgin Park.

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CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

Anita Anderson
Illinois Institute of Technology

Martin Aurand
Carnegie Mellon University

Priscilla Biondi
Wentworth Institute of Technology

Kathryn S. Brackney
Georgia Institute of Technology

Jeanne Brown
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Anita Carrico
University of Maryland

Frances Chen
Princeton University

Judy Connorton
City College of New York

Linda Cuccurullo
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Kathleen Demsky
Andrews University

Sarah W. Dickinson
Boston Architectural Center

Ilene Frank
University of South Florida

Angela Giral
Columbia University

Marilyn Ibach
The Library of Congress

Betsy Peck Learned
Roger Williams University

Michael Leininger
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Susan Lewis
Boston Architectural Center

Kay Logan-Peters
University of Nebraska, Lincoln

Jane McMaster
Ohio State University

Wayne Meyer
Ball State University

Joon Mornes
University of Minnesota

Barbara Opar
Syracuse University

Helen Powell
Technical University of Nova Scotia

Donna Richardson
Technical University of Nova Scotia

Fran Scott
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Jeneice W. Smith
Florida A&M University

Rosemary Szczgiel
Fairfield University

Teresa To
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Patricia Weisenburger
Kansas State University

Hugh Wilburn
Harvard University

WHAT DID YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING?

Wayne Meyer (Ball State; AASL President): I especially appreciated the ready and competent cooperation that I received all along from some key members and friends in Boston/Cambridge. Michael Leininger at MIT again proved himself a mainstay of our organization by providing a fine Internet/WWW presentation, multiple facilities at Rotch Library, clear maps, tasty cookies - and various other kinds of support. Hugh Wilburn at Harvard volunteered assistance before I myself got down to serious planning and then followed through with fine facilities at the Loeb Library, expert pointing and clicking (under pressure), a really nice mini-tour of Harvard, etc. Sarah Dickinson at the Boston Architectural Center (along with Head Librarian Susan Lewis) took my rough idea for an afternoon at Copley Square and developed it into my personal favorite part of the conference, especially the before-and-after renovation presentation at the Boston Public Library with architect William Barry. My sincere thanks to all.

These kinds of "personal" advantages that I had in Boston may not always be so abundantly available to a VP and conference

organizer. But when AASL officers and members and friends are willing to thoroughly survey their resources and ask for help and respond positively to such appeals, then I think the road to a good meeting opens up.

Donna Richardson and Helen Powell (Technical University of Nova Scotia): We both really enjoyed Kay Logan-Peters presentation on her image collection initiative. It struck a deep chord as we are in the throes of attempting to bring order to our own architecture slide collection. Kay's experiences mirror many of ours. And it was comforting to know that one can retain one's sense of humor throughout such an emotionally charged exercise.

The tour guides ran a close second in terms of sheer enjoyment. Their knowledge was remarkable and their enthusiasm infectious. The meeting planners deserve top marks for tour guide selection.

Pat Weisenburger (Kansas State): I enjoyed the sherry hour at the Boston Architectural Center immensely. The conversation was excellent, the setting was lovely, and the refreshments were delicious.

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FROM ARLIS

At the annual conference of the Art Libraries Society of North America, April 25-May 1, 1996, in Miami Beach, the ARLIS/NA Executive board unanimously endorsed formal affiliation with the Association of Architecture School Librarians. In

announcing the board's endorsement at the annual membership meeting, President Edward Teaque noted that ARLIS and AASL had successfully collaborated in the past in developing library accreditation guidelines and that, with common goals and members, future joint efforts between the two organizations were highly desirable. As required by policy, the ARLIS/NA membership will be asked to approve formal affiliation in the fall when new officers are elected.

ARCHITECTURE SECTION BUSINESS MEETING

By Judy Connorton (City College of New York)

The section business meeting, chaired by Moderator Judy Connorton, took place on Sunday, April 28, at the ARLIS/NA conference. Steering Committee members, Jeanne Brown and Kitty Chibnik were introduced. Outgoing UPDATE editor Maya Chylinski was unable to attend. Following a brief introductory talk from Roger Lawson, newly elected vice-president of ARLIS/NA, an election was held for the position of moderator-elect. Ann Lally of the University of Arizona, Tucson was elected. Christine Bala of Columbia's Avery Library will serve as the new UPDATE editor.

Jeanne Brown announced an analysis of the replies to the Survey of Architecture School Libraries co-conducted with Judy Connorton will appear in the next issue of Art Documentation.

Discussion of a project that could involve ARLIS members in the editorial clean-up of several thousand architectural records to update the NUT database followed.

Members interested in this project contacted Tom Jacoby, University of Connecticut, who was the point person present.

Members discussed ideas for programs at the 1997 San Antonio ARLIS conference: the status of COPAR and local efforts in architectural records preservation; architecture of the Southwest and Mexico; accreditation guidelines for architecture school libraries; and appraisals of architectural drawings and other objects. Volunteers agreed to pursue these in preparation for the 5-31-96 submission deadline.

Following a brief discussion of the section's role in the ARLIS/NA Strategic Plan 1996-1999, Kitty Chibnik said that she would distribute pertinent portions of the plan to the Section and in UPDATE, asking for comments.

Two sessions were held: Art Deco Latin America and Pretty in Pink? Color, Design and Your Library. The Ask ARLIS session dealt with architecture school accreditation and the architecture library.

FROM CPL

Marilyn Myers (Arizona State West) reports that the members of the Council of Planning Librarians attending the Orlando Meetings identified thirteen initiatives that might be pursued now that the organization will no longer be producing the Bibliography Series. Each project was assessed for its potential impact or value to planning information, its correlation with CPL mission and objectives, and the membership resources required to sustain it. The Executive Committee will announce action to be taken on some of the initiatives/projects soon. The initiatives receiving high priority designation were an index of dissertations and theses on planning

topics and Internet access and presentations at the annual meeting

FROM OUR MEMBERS

ANITA ANDERSON (IIT)

The news from IIT's College of Architecture is that our new dean, Donna Robertson, is the first female dean here. Also the accreditation visit--the library was visited on Easter Sunday--produced comments about the new library.

I just returned from a trip to Turkey, the trip that Michael Leininger mentioned on AASL-L some months ago. Sponsored by the Boston Architectural Center, the trip by bus covered almost 3,000 miles in 19 days. I feel like I have seen everything of importance in western Turkey--Blue Mosque, Green Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Cappadocia, Ephesus, etc, etc.

We traveled with an excellent Turkish guide and an instructor from the Center who both lectured and led us around these places. It was both exhilarating and tiring.

I am almost embarrassed to mention that I am planning to go again this summer to the Dominican Republic to continue working on the shipwreck we started to excavate six years ago. I am now a board member of the Pan-American Institute of Maritime Archaeology which sponsors the excavation.

AMY CICCONE (USC)

I have returned to the Architecture and Fine Arts Library after nearly two years as Acting Assistant University Librarian for Public Services.

Aniko (Coco) Halverson has joined the AFA staff as the Reference and Instruction

Librarian. She received her MLIS from UCLA and holds a BA in art history from UC-Berkeley. Coco interned at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art Library and recently worked in the Architecture Slide Library at Berkeley.

The AFA Library lent its copy of Bruno Taut's *Der Weltbaumeister* to the Deutsches Filmmuseum in Frankfurt for their exhibit, "Film Architecture: Set Designs from Metropolis to Blade Runner." The exhibition catalogue was edited by Dietrich Neumann and published by Prestel Art, 1996, \$65.

PAUL GLASSMAN (PRATT)

I began as Art & Architecture Librarian at Pratt Institute at the beginning of the 1995-96 academic year. I concentrate on collection development in architecture and urban design and have especially enjoyed bibliographic instruction sessions with architecture students.

Perhaps the modest highlights of the past year are the acquisition of the Avery Index on CD-ROM and the accompanying acquisition of several new serial titles, such as Space Design, Quaderns, and Blueprint. I was pleased to be asked to revise and expand the section on information resources for the reaccreditation application for the School of Architecture. It gave me the opportunity to examine the relationship between the school and the library, which is an Institute-wide central library. It helped me to define the high level of public service provided by the library--one distinct advantage of having a central library only--and to assemble current and accurate statistics on holdings.

I was happy to be able to develop and install an exhibition entitled Firmness, Commodity, Delight: Sources on Architectural Theory

from Vitruvius to Venturi in the Pratt Institute Library.

ANN LALLY (ARIZONA)

I moved last January from Clemson University where I was the Architecture Reference Librarian to Tucson to become the Architecture Librarian at the University of Arizona. After six months I feel I have finally settled in and am enjoying this new challenge.

MICHAEL LEININGER (MIT)

I'm all done moving, and I've exchanged world travel for lawn-mowing. I weed-wacked my entire property, only to discover that weeds are just about all I have for a "lawn." I also have some very large yews that I must remove from around the foundation. They're provoking mildew on my lattice-work. So, I'm setting sail on a sea of landscape discovery, with a wealth of botanical information here in Rotch to help me along. I love being in my yard all weekend; hope it's not a passing enthusiasm. My latest acquisitions include a garden shed, an extension ladder, and a wheelbarrow. I feel like Mr. Blandings.

KAY LOGAN-PETERS (NEBRASKA)

I have been on leave since late February and will return to work this fall. I am researching as many campus buildings as I have time to do. Beginning in 1869, I hope to get through the 1940's. For each building, I am trying to determine the architect and contractor; the politics in terms of legislation/appropriation; the departments housed within, renovations, fires, disasters that altered the building. If the building was named for an individual, I am trying to find out why that person was so recognized. I am also doing limited research on the architectural firms that designed the buildings and the several campus plans. One

of the chief ones completed shortly after World War I was developed by Shepley, Rutan, and Coolidge of Chicago.

I haven't decided how to package all of this, but I hope to put it in some type of illustrated book.

Besides that I recently finished an article on Sheridan Boulevard, a ritzy residential street in south Lincoln. This was a short piece for a local magazine, geared to visitors and newcomers. It was a lot of fun to work on.

I have also been to Tucson and Mexico, and am about to launch into a major remodel of my poor old house.

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1996-97 Officers

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**Vice President/President-Elect, Ann Scott
(Kansas State)**

Secretary, Michael Leininger (MIT)

**Treasurer, Kathy Brackney (Georgia
Tech)**

**Past President, Jeneice Smith, Florida A
& M**

1996-97 Annual Meeting: Dallas Texas

MARCH 15--18

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Patricia Weisenburger, Editor
Kansas State University

Michael Leininger, Proofreader
MIT

**Association of
Architecture School Librarians
NEWSLETTER**