



NEWSLETTER WINTER 1996

BIG D, LITTLE A, DOUBLE L, A, S The place for AASL members to be March 16-18, 1997

Program chair Ann Scott (Kansas State) reports that planning for the 19th annual AASL meeting is nearing completion. It should prove to be an enjoyable, enlightening, epicurean, eclectic, effulgent event. The conference hotel is the beautifully restored, historic Adolphus in the heart of downtown Dallas.

Activities thus far commence with a round-table discussion on Internet access policies, tips and tricks, followed by presentations on roadside architecture, and Texas regional architecture. Excursions will take us to the Wilson Historic District for Preservation Dallas' walking tour of the Victorian neighborhood, the Dallas Museum of Art for a presentation of the Library's digital imaging project and a special exhibit, "Animals in African Art: from the Familiar to the Marvelous," the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden for a tour and catered lunch, and Medieval Times for a group dinner and performance.

The registration fee will be about \$60 and will include all entrance fees, the lunch at the Arboretum, the Medieval Times dinner and show, and private transportation. No standing in long lines to buy tickets, no struggling to divide the restaurant tab, no studying maps of public transportation routes. Ann Lally (Arizona) is developing a conference home page; the address will be posted to AASL-L.

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DALLAS HAS IT ALL

More thrills than Disneyland; more restaurants per capita than any city west of the Mississippi; more music than Nashville; more shopping than New York. So says the Dallas visitors' guide. Six Flags Over Texas opens for weekends early in March. Two Saint Patrick's Day parades are scheduled. The zoos in Fort Worth and Dallas are home to thousands of native and exotic animals. Cutting edge music, jazz, and country-

western entertainment are all easily at hand. The Shamrock Music Festival is featured on March 16 and 17. The Meyerson Symphony Center offers memorable classical music, including the acclaimed Van Cliburn Concert Series. The 36 shopping malls boast up-scale stores such as Saks, Neiman Marcus, and Tiffany's, and hundreds of boutiques offer western art, leather goods, antiques, apparel, and home furnishings. Trader's Village is a

flea market with more than 1600 vendors. Dining opportunities range from sipping espresso in elegant courtyards to cooking your own steak at a down home honky tonk. It's all waiting for us.

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VP/PRESIDENT-ELECT WEARS SEVERAL HATS

A phone call several years ago from the head of Kansas State's Department of Geography to the head of the Libraries was all that was necessary to launch Ann Scott's library career. She had just completed a Master of Arts degree in Latin American geography and wanted to find a job in Manhattan, Kansas. Because the call for Latin American geographers was slim in the central plains, working at KSU Libraries was a viable alternative. She began as a classified employee in cataloging and later moved to a reference position in the education library where she stayed for 14 years. Stints followed as online searching coordinator, administrative personnel officer, and associate dean for public services. Tiring of life at the top three years ago, Ann accepted one of the best jobs at KSU Libraries: reference librarian at Weigel Library of Architecture, Planning, and Design. She has received two grants to enhance the landscape gardening collection and is ready to do the same for historic preservation materials.

At five pm each day, Ann exchanges her library hat for her gardening hat and becomes the owner of Lee Creek Gardens, a nursery and landscaping business. She has two additional hats that she wears when her restored stone farmhouse serves as a bed and breakfast and when her garden is the site of weddings and receptions which she caters.

Many of these interests were developed as

she moved from one army post to another with her career officer father and later with her air force officer husband. She has lived in Albuquerque, Arlington, Virginia, San Francisco, and Cheyenne, Wyoming before taking up permanent residence in Manhattan, Kansas. A rather full life, one might judge.

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1997 BUSINESS MEETING CONCERNS

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee, Anita Anderson (IIT), Chair, Kay Logan-Peters (Nebraska), and Frances Chen (Princeton) is seeking to fill the offices of vice president/president elect and secretary. Kathy Brackney (Georgia Tech) has agreed to stay on as treasurer for another year so the secretary and treasurer offices can be returned to a staggered election pattern as called for in the By-laws.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Wayne Meyer (Ball State)
Correction to the Minutes:

The minutes of the March 1996 AASL business meeting, published in the summer newsletter, refer to Association of Architectural Librarians' (AAL) desire to merge with AASL. In fact, the inquiry from AAL dealt only with the possibility of every other year joint conferences, not a merger. The discussion took place toward the end of a rather long and lively meeting, and I'm afraid our Secretary and I did not get it right. We apologize for any confusion caused.

The President's Major Proposal:

In recent years there has been some difficulty in finding a member willing to accept the nomination to the office of Vice-President/ President-Elect. It is a big job, focused primarily on arranging the annual meeting. At present there are few concrete rewards attached to it. It would be good for AASL to make this two-year job a little more attractive.

The annual meeting is by far the most important single activity undertaken by AASL. It needs to be worthwhile if AASL is to be a worthwhile organization. Any method to help the VP/Pres-Elect should be encouraged and supported.

Another issue to consider is inter-organizational cooperation and support. Modern technology draws things together, everything from previously-rather-distinct library operations and formats of information resources to all global villagers themselves. And somewhere in between are professional organizations working in the same field or related fields, who now can and maybe should work together more. Among the first that come to mind are ARLIS/NA, Council of Planning Librarians (CPL), and the Visual Resources Association (VRA). In this connection, I thought it was a good idea for AASL to pursue formal affiliation with ARLIS/NA.

Those, in brief, are the reasons why I intend to make the following motion at the business meeting next March. And it is the context in which I hope you will all consider it.

(Editor's Note: President Meyer has a plan to permit him the opportunity to place a motion before the house.)

I move that:

The Vice-President/President-Elect may request reimbursement for expenses, not to exceed \$300, incurred for attendance at one conference or professional meeting which is relevant to the planning and preparation for the next AASL annual meeting. (See list of reimbursable expenses and limits which follows.) Applicants are urged to discuss with the current President the appropriateness of a given conference or professional meeting.

The conference or professional meeting must take place sometime between the announcement at the AASL annual business meeting of the election of the new VP/Pres-Elect and January 1 of the following year.

The VP/Pres-Elect must submit a written request to all other members of the Executive Board which includes a 2-5 page report describing the grounds for selecting the specific conference or professional meeting and how attendance at that meeting did or did not prove helpful for the planning and preparation of the next AASL annual meeting. A copy of the request submitted to the Treasurer must be accompanied by

1) a list of reimbursable expenses according to the requirements listed below and 2) standard business receipts documenting those expenses. The deadline for submitting this request documentation is the first day of the AASL annual meeting.

Upon approval by the members of the Executive Board, the Treasurer will be authorized to issue

a check for those expenses, not to exceed \$300.

Reimbursable Expenses and Maximum Limits:

1. Registration for a conference or professional meeting: limit \$100.
2. Lodging: limits \$75 per night for three nights maximum.
3. Meals/subsistence: \$25 per day (receipts not required), limit: three days or \$75.00.
4. Transportation: limit:\$200; (\$.25 per mile for personal car).
5. Total reimbursement may not exceed \$300.

I am publishing my intended motion early to give you a chance to think about it. Contact me with question or comments, and I'll do my best to respond.

Wayne Meyer, AASL President

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NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Martin Aurand (Carnegie Mellon)

I am mounting an exhibit entitled "A Campus Renewed? A Decade of Building at Carnegie Mellon, 1986-1996." from December 3 to 21,1996. There will be an accompanying catalog (available through me) and an accompanying lecture by architects Michael Dennis of Michael Dennis & Associates (Boston), and Peter Bohlin of Bohlin Cywinski Jackson(WilkesBarre/Pittsburgh/Philadelphia/Seattle).

Since 1986, Carnegie Mellon University has undertaken a major building program that has reshaped, extended, and renewed the campus and contributed significant new architecture to Pittsburgh. The Carnegie Mellon University Architecture Archives and the Hewlett Gallery celebrate this activity with an exhibit of architectural renderings, drawings, models and photographs, and a joint lecture by the two architects who have most shaped the new architecture.

KATHY DEMSKY (ANDREWS)

Last June I attended the Environmental Design Research Association conference, held in Salt Lake City. I am coordinator of the Book Display for this international group of design professionals. This is my tenth year in this capacity and this summer I was the recipient of the 1996 EDRA Service Award.

I also traveled in Europe for three weeks in October and November. We visited three schools of

architecture: the Berlage Institute in Amsterdam, the Politecnico Di Milano, and the Istituto Universitario Di Architettura Di Venezia. It was a great experience meeting those librarians and we are now in touch by E-mail. We also traveled to Assisi, Orveto, Florence, other small towns in Italy, and out of the way villages in Switzerland. Many major art museums were included on the itinerary.

Beth Dodd (Texas-Austin)

Several things are happening on our front. In conjunction with the Charles Moore gift, we have got a Charles W. Moore room. The majority of materials in the Architectural Drawings Collection will be moved into this space early next year. This, of course, will create a domino effect--before we move the cabinets, we need to remove the "odd" stuff. In order to move the odd stuff, we have to make room for it in our stacks. In order to make room in the stacks, we have to shift everything in the stacks. So far, we are only in the shifting stage.

Early in January, I will attend the RLG sponsored workshop FAST Track where I hope to become acquainted with the process of mounting our archival finding aids on the web.

Janine and I are also busy preparing for the sessions we will address and moderate at the 25th ARLIS conference in San Antonio in April.

Ilene Frank (South Florida)

I get to be on a panel for ARLIS about our electronic reference service in April 1997.

projects. However, with twenty projects per year and a cursory index for each year, it has always been a cumbersome source for users and referrals. I began indexing the PRF last summer and have completed the years 1988-1996 and 1971-1978. Indexing terms are designed to aid students in our real estate program but crossover to architecture is significant, with building types and terms such as adaptive use.

In addition to a subject index, there is a listing of projects by name and I may eventually add a list of projects by geographical location. The file is accessed on my website, (Rotch, Architecture, People, Places and Things or with the following URL:
<http://nimrod.mit.edu/depts/rotch/subjects/architecture/prf-index.html>

I am now the Film Studies Librarian in addition to architecture. If I don't get to Dallas it will be to attend a film conference in Montreal instead, but my primary commitment is still architecture and AASL.

WAYNE MEYER (BALL STATE)

To be blunt, I am not quite sure that Texas is a place that this partially rehabilitated shy person would have chosen to visit--just on my own initiative, I mean. (I only carry fishing rods and French bread in my gun rack - and that's my Yugo sport coupe.) But now I am eager head on down to the Lone Star state next March - and that's because of the ten-gallon, King-size program planning job that VP Ann Scott has done for us. Moreover, part of the attraction of the program is its regional flavor. I'm looking forward, for example, to a presentation on Texas architecture (of the sprawling Great Plains and Southwest variety). A tour of the Dallas Museum of Art would be worthwhile, no doubt, just for its own sake, but its digitization project is certainly a subject I need to learn more about. Down-to-earth discussions by my architecture librarian colleagues of nuts-and-bolts topics, such as searching the Net/Web, are still, for me, the staples of AASL meetings. And lunch in the Arboretum and Botanical Garden sound quite high-class. Plus, as they say, much, much more. I sure hope to see you in Big D.

MICHELE SAWCHUK (WATERLOO)

At long last, approval has been received to install a security system in the University of Waterloo's Map and Design Library. Every year, thousands of dollars of architecture and design-related titles were walking out

the library. An additional \$10,000 from the Dean of Environmental Studies convinced the library administration to purchase the system. It is expected to be operational by April, 1997. This is the best piece of news from UW.

Patricia Weisenburger, editor
Weigel Library of Architecture, Planning, and Design
Kansas State University

**Association of
Architecture School Librarians
NEWSLETTER**



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