Janine Henri
2014 AASL Distinguished Service Award Recipient

Introduction by Elizabeth Douthitt Byrne
Librarian Emerita, Environmental Design Library
University of California, Berkeley

Delivered on Elizabeth Byrne's behalf by Elizabeth Schaub, AASL Awards Committee Chair, on Thursday, April 10, 2014 at The University of Miami.

It is my pleasure to introduce Janine Henri as the recipient of this year's Distinguished Service Award.

In 1979 Janine earned a B.A. degree with honors in Design in Crafts at San Diego State University, and subsequently did work toward a Master's degree in art history at UCLA.

In 1985 I was fortunate to hire Janine as a library assistant to work for me in UC Berkeley's Environmental Design Library. While working as a Library Assistant, she earned her Master of Library and Information Science at U.C. Berkeley in December 1990.

Janine was then hired as Art Librarian at The University of Texas, Austin, Fine Arts Library, where she served until September 1995. Immediately afterward she became Head Librarian at the university's Architecture and Planning Library, managing both the library and Alexander Architectural Archives, until August 2007. Since

September 2007 she has been Architecture, Design and Digital Services Librarian at the UCLA Arts Library.

Janine is an outstanding professional. She is a passionate advocate for users and for the profession. Nearly four pages of her curriculum vitae are devoted to her numerous professional activities and memberships. Her colleagues describe her as a "consistent and tireless advocate for the user, for adopting new technologies, and for building and promoting the value of both analog and digital collections in the arts, architecture and design, " and "never an idle member…always pushing our profession forward."

An active member of AASL since 1988 (with a three-year exception when she was only an art librarian), she has served the organization in many leadership capacities, including a three-year term on its executive board as Vice-President, President, and Past President (2007-2010). She has also served on the Conference Planning Committee (2013), Core Reference Sources Task Force (2011 to present), chaired the Nominating Committee twice (2003 and 2010), and co-chaired the Membership Committee (2000-2002). In 2013 she did a survey of, and organized and moderated an ACSA panel discussion on, current architectural publishing trends and information access challenges.
But perhaps Janine's most important accomplishment for AASL was her work on the Joint AASL-ARLIS/NA Task Force on NAAB standards, 1999-2005, which resulted in greatly improved and simplified procedures and criteria for evaluating architecture school libraries in the accreditation process. She also spearheaded the inclusion of standards for collections in the NAAB guidelines. In addition to coordinating the complex efforts of two different organizations on this project, Janine also worked with the National Architectural Accrediting Board, attending their 2003 validation conference.

She has also assumed leadership roles in the Art Libraries Society of North America. Janine served on their Executive Board, chaired and/or served on numerous other committees, and participated in many ARLIS/NA regional chapters and their Architecture Section, where she served as moderator (1999-2000) and created the content on its website. She is also a frequent contributor to the Architecture Section column in ARLIS/NA Update. Most recently she had a major role on the ARLIS/NA Conference Planning Advisory Committee for the 2013 ARLIS/NA conference held in Pasadena, which was by all accounts a resounding success. Among the many other related professional organizations in which she has actively participated and contributed are the Society of Architectural Historians and the Council of Planning Librarians.

Her exceptional creativity, innovation, leadership and scholarship have been exhibited through many activities. She continues to serve as UCLA's representative on the innovative University of California's Shared Images Project, which is planning, facilitating and managing UC's image collection building in Artstor. She has created numerous helpful and well-organized research guides for architecture students, and provides exceptional reference service. In addition to expanding the architecture and related subjects print collection, she has been instrumental in developing collaborative digital image collections for architecture.

Janine is author or co-author of a number of significant publications that enhance the profession of architecture librarianship. The Library and the Accreditation Process in Design Disciplines: Best Practices (ARLIS/NA, 2003), of which she was co-author, contains five sections she wrote. Reviewers noted that the book was "the first of its kind," "an excellent and practical guide," and its authors "well qualified." Her article on "Management, Public Service, and Access Issues" in an architecture branch library, first published in the Journal of Library Administration, was reprinted in the book, The Twenty-first Century Art Librarian.

An enthusiastic teacher of numerous bibliographic instruction and information literacy sessions to hundreds, if not thousands of art, architecture and design students during the more than twenty-four years of her career, Janine has been an inspirational mentor and "an exceptional role model" to staff and students, several of whom have gone on to become librarians themselves. Her students have benefitted from her vast knowledge and her generosity of time in sharing it.

And I'm sure there are other contributions I have failed to mention. She has not only met the highest standards of our field, but helped create them! Janine's skills and knowledge, diligence, endless energy, and consistent and outstanding contributions to our field surely merit the AASL Distinguished Service Award.