

**MINUTES**  
**Proposed VRA Midwest Regional Chapter**  
**Fall Business Meeting**  
**Saturday, October 17, 1998**

**Northwestern University, Evanston, IL**

**ATTENDEES:**

John Butler-Ludwig, University of Chicago  
Jane Darcovich, University of Illinois/Chicago  
Noriko Ebersole, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art  
Leigh Gates, The Art Institute of Chicago  
Virginia Kerr, Northwestern University  
Catherine Mardikes, University of Chicago  
Rebecca Mayne, Grand Rapids Public Library  
Theresa Wiebe, Judson College  
Beth Zopf, Northwestern University

John Butler-Ludwig, Chair, presided over the fourth organizational meeting which was held at Northwestern University with nine people in attendance. The meeting followed a presentation by Virginia Kerr, (Northwestern University): Experiences in a national digitizing grant competition: first phase of Northwestern University Library's Library of Congress/Ameritech project; a basic grant writing workshop conducted by Lissa Kennedy and Brian Ferriso, (University of Chicago); and a demonstration of U of C's Electronic Full-Text Services and Electronic Open Stacks by Catherine Mardikes, (University of Chicago).

**ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

Proposed By-Laws for the VRA Midwest Regional Chapter:

In July, John Butler-Ludwig received a letter from Jenni Rodda asking that we make some amendments to the bylaws before they are approved. Upon further consideration, it was decided that the annual report would be submitted on January 1st, that voting would be conducted by mail, and that the nominating committee would send its slate of candidates to the Secretary/Treasurer. These amendments will be incorporated into the bylaws by John Butler-Ludwig, which will be resubmitted to members, and voted on once again.

Membership:

The chapter addressed concerns about the ad hoc membership list and lack of participation at regional meetings. It was suggested that the next meeting be posted on the ARLIS listserv. Also, that those interested in membership request it officially through the Secretary/Treasurer. We would like to incorporate visual

resource professionals from non-academic organizations, such as corporate image collections and image management and multi-media development groups. Examples included stock photo companies and the Society of American Archivists.

#### Next Chapter Meeting:

It was agreed that a joint meeting with ARLIS/Midstates would be beneficial in terms of increased attendance and chapter interest. The VRA Midwest Chapter will attempt to work with ARLIS/Midstates on setting a date when both organizations can meet. Proposed topics included: a demonstration of the AMICO and/or VISION projects and a presentation of a local collection.

#### Nominating Committee:

A replacement for Eileen Fry's position on the nominating committee was discussed. No one present at the meeting could fill this position due to time constraints and other obligations. It was suggested that Jane Ferger of the Indianapolis Museum of Art be contacted and asked to fill Eileen's vacancy.

#### Collective Grant Writing:

John Butler-Ludwig opened discussion regarding the accumulation of creative ideas for collective grant proposals. It was suggested that if such a collaboration were to occur, it would be beneficial to choose a topic that is particular to the Midwest, or something to do specifically with the vested interests of the Midwest Regional Chapter. Concern was expressed that individuals are already struggling within their own institutions to tackle grant-writing projects, and that time for any other outside projects is at a minimum. It was pointed out that although time constraint is a concern, this type of collaborative mechanism has been successful at obtaining money for such things as library cataloging projects. All agreed that there would have to be a joint agreement on guidelines, standards and commitments before any such effort could be embarked upon.

#### Open Discussion:

#### Visual Resources Association Nancy DeLaurier Writing Awards:

Leigh Gates expressed concern regarding very few professional contributions. Members are strongly encouraged to submit papers. Members may also submit writing samples on another person's behalf.

#### VRA Midwest Regional Chapter Web Site:

The addition of a threaded discussion regarding regional supply vendors and

prices was also considered and received positive feedback.

John Butler-Ludwig will be posting handouts from this meeting on the VRA Midwest Regional Chapter web site.

John Butler-Ludwig made a motion to adjourn at 4:40p.m.

Submitted by Beth Zopf, Secretary/Treasurer, Proposed VRA Midwest Regional Chapter.