

# Minutes

**Visual Resources Association Texas Chapter  
Business Meeting, June 7<sup>th</sup> 2008  
University of Texas, Austin. Goldsmith Hall.  
12:00-12:30 PM**

**In attendance: (11)**

Meriann Bidgood, UofH  
Sondra Brady, Baylor  
Robert Carter, UT Austin  
Eileen Coffman, SMU  
Julia Deal, Texas State  
Ann Graham, UNT  
Katherine Hooker, Southwestern  
Sigrid Knudsen, UT Austin  
Mark Pompelia, Rice  
Elizabeth Schaub, UT Austin  
Susan Sutherland, A&M

**I. Call to Order**

President Pompelia called the meeting to order at 12:10 PM.

**II. Introductions**

Attendees being more or less acquainted, introductions were deemed unnecessary and omitted for the sake of saving time.

**III. Acknowledgements**

Mark thanked Elizabeth Schaub and Sigrid Knudsen for hosting and arranging a meeting space and programming on the UT campus. Peter Keane and Robert Carter were recognized for their informative presentations on UT's DASE database (Digital Archive Services). Appreciation was given to Sigrid's department for funding members' Central Market breakfast. Lastly, attendees were thanked for meeting on a Saturday.

**IV. Approval of February 2008 Business Meeting Minutes**

Members having been given a copy to glance over, Elizabeth moved that we approve the minutes. Ann Graham seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion passed.

**V. Secretary-Treasurer Update**

Katherine Hooker gave an erroneous treasury report: the actual figure should be \$315.21. Membership presently stands at 19 individuals. (In response to a query, membership is based on calendar year, so renewals will come due in January.)

## **VI. Chapter Web site update**

Since the last meeting, Mark has added a page to divide chapter events into past and upcoming. The minutes from October were posted, and those from February and today will be posted soon. A possible links page was discussed, including links to ARLIS-TX/Mex and other helpful and/or related sites.

### **a. Member directory**

Julia Deal had suggested that the chapter's site maintain a member contact list (as exemplified by the Arlis-TX/Mex web site), as well as a technology profile. It was concurred that such a list would help members become familiar with each other, especially those who cannot attend meetings. Mark voiced his approval for the concept, provided that individuals give permission for their personal information to appear online. He suggested that we ought to partner with the VRA membership committee to address this need on a larger scale. If collaboration seems unlikely, VRA-TX could still benefit from maintaining a local listing. A bulletin asking for current members to volunteer information will likely go out on the VRA-TX listserv soon. Elizabeth suggested that the membership form be modified so that it includes a check box to allow or disallow sharing of new members' information on the public website.

### **b. Technology Profile**

A brief discussion was held regarding what information members would like to see within a technology profile. Suggestions included platform (Mac/PC), cataloging tool, presentation system, and type/amount of hardware (e.g. scanners). The listserv will be utilized to determine what other information might help members seek each other out.

## **VII. 2009 VRA Annual Conference, Toronto**

### **a. Chapter gathering: formal v. informal**

Mark pointed out that next year's conference, being in Canada, will likely have higher costs associated and therefore presumably lower attendance. With this in mind, as the conference draws closer the listserv will again serve as the primary communication method to determine whether or not a meeting is viable.

### **b. Chapter Donation to Members Reception/Coffee Break**

Members agreed that we would like to contribute again, the actual amount to be determined closer to the conference date.

### **c. Education Committee-sponsored workshop stipend**

Traditionally the chapter president receives this funding, but Mark understandably passed, being a very busy member of the VRA executive board. Robert Carter did attend a workshop in San Diego, and his report

will likely appear on the VRA-TX web site. Similar sponsorship will probably be available for Toronto, so members were encouraged to consider applying for the 2009 funds.

#### **VIII. Next Meeting?**

The bylaws require two meetings per calendar year, a stipulation this chapter has now met. It is conceivable that we might not meet for a long while. However, the idea of gathering on a Saturday this autumn met with positive reception. Mark and Elizabeth suggested a practical, on-site demonstration of actual workflows. Such an event would surely be attractive to members. Details of possible locations will be discussed further, and will likely be facilitated by the proposed technology profile project.

If the TDL consortium- discussed in-depth earlier in the day- goes forward as planned, then members might wish to meet again sooner to sustain momentum. Again, updates will be provided via the chapter listserv.

#### **IX. Fall Elections**

The chapter's staggered two-year term structure was reiterated. Secretary/treasurer Katherine Hooker will serve through 2009, whereas president Mark Pompelia's term ends in 2008. In order for the chapter to survive, a new president for 2009-2010 will need to be elected this fall. There are various methods of achieving this- by ballot, acclamation, etc. Mark will call for nominations or volunteers but appoint someone as the official contact point for naming a successor. In the event that no one volunteers to serve, a committee will be formed. All members were again urged to consider serving as chapter president.

#### **X. Other/New Business**

##### **a. Texas digital image licensing consortium efforts**

Developments with TDL, and likewise with Peter Keane and UT's DASE system, will be announced as they unfold. These will likely shape the chapter's future meeting dates and locations.

##### **b. ?**

Sigrid noted that meetings in Dallas seemed to draw a few more members, and suggested it be considered again for future meetings. Eileen observed that we might want to choose a location based on who has the software or workflow that members would like to view most. It was pointed out that some systems- like DASE- could be accessed from anywhere, given that someone has an ID or password. Future meeting locations are thus undecided, but the chapter has many good possibilities to consider.

#### **XI. Adjournment**

President Pompelia adjourned the meeting at 12:30 PM.