

## 2023 DSA INTRODUCTORY REMARKS FOR JUDY DYKI

ARLIS/NA Conference, Pittsburg, PA

April 4, 2024

The Distinguished Service Award honors an individual of any country whose exemplary service in art librarianship, visual resources curatorship, or a related field, has made an outstanding national or international contribution to art information.

I would personally like to thank, Cara and members of the Distinguished Service Award Subcommittee, for allowing me to introduce Judy Dyki as the 2023 DSA honoree. I also want to thank my co-nominator, Maria Oldal, from the Morgan Library & Museum, and the letter writers who helped with this nomination.

Our submission included 49 letters of support. Letter writers include 18 former ARLIS/NA presidents, 9 ARLIS/NA DSA recipients, 6 colleagues from the Cranbrook Academy of Art, 3 ARLIS/NA Canadian members, 16 retirees, and 9 early-career ARLIS/NA members.

Judy's active involvement in ARLIS/NA goes back to March 1977, as documented in her charming letter to Judith Hoffberg, a response to a request for feedback about the format of the *ARLIS/NA Newsletter*. The letter is preserved in the ARLIS/NA Archives at the University of Illinois Archives. Thank you, Emilee Matthews, for finding this gem!

Little did Judy (or any of us) know how far she would go in tending to the Society's communication channels over the next 40 years with the utmost care, diligence, professionalism, and impact. She may be on the quiet, unassuming, and humble side, but there is no mistake about her monumental effects on ARLIS/NA and on our professional engagement in the Society.

One contributor wrote comprehensively, "During these years, roughly 1987-1997, Judy was involved in ARLIS/NA activities which, in retrospect, were foundational to the current achievements for which she is best known. She began her long-standing membership in the Communications and Publications Committee and served in leadership roles in the Computer Section and the Technology Committee. Concurrently, she served as assistant editor, and then editor, of *ARLIS/NA Update*, the leading news vehicle of the organization for many years, and the predecessor of ARLIS-L. In reviewing the trajectory of Judy's tenure in the Society, her future roles in ARLIS-L and *Art Documentation* seem inextricably linked."

*Art Documentation* and ARLIS-L provide communication channels for researchers and professionals in our field, a repository of important research efforts, and a recognition mechanism for researchers and institutions alike. It is close to impossible to overstate the importance of these conduits for the optimal functioning of a professional organization.

As editor of *Art Documentation*, Judy has been responsible for editorial principles and practices that conform to the conventions in our field while adhering to rigorous, fair, and timely peer review. She has done this while mentoring generations of writers with a positive mindset, genuine interest, and curiosity.

Judy has been moderating the Society's primary daily communication channel, ARLIS-L, since 2006. It is nearly impossible to fathom the amount of work and attention needed to perform this service on behalf of all of us, nonstop for such an extended period, and with so few hiccups. She has ensured the efficiency of our professional communication without ever pointing out the effort that goes into it. She has done this work with extreme efficacy and diplomacy. She has become a household name, popping into our mailboxes almost daily with the latest job advertisements, without us ever stopping to ponder her dedication, generosity, and professionalism that makes it all possible.

Another writer states, "Where would ARLIS/NA be if not for Judy's unceasing dedication and commitment to the very highest standards of ARLIS? Her career has been one of outstanding and sustained service to our Society."

Outside of her outstanding service to the Society, Judy held progressively more involved positions at the Cranbrook Academy of Art before reaching her current role as deputy director. Despite her increasing involvement in strategic and management tasks, which she performs with utmost competence, it appears that Judy has never abandoned the day-to-day tasks of running the library and assisting anyone who needs it, from the latest dean to the next wave of incoming students. Her colleagues' testimonials indicate that Judy has served as a lynchpin in the life of the Academy, and provided the same sustaining "quiet leadership" to Cranbrook as she has to ARLIS/NA.

It was important to Maria and me that we could celebrate close to four decades of steady and significant contributions while Judy is actively involved in performing this work. As a letter writer so aptly put it, "2024 will mark twenty years since Judy assumed her role as editor of *Art Documentation*." Therefore Maria and I are delighted that ARLIS/NA honors this milestone and presents the 2023 Distinguished Service Award to Judy Dyki.

- Lori Salmon, New York University

19143 Fairport  
Detroit, MI 48205  
March 29, 1977

March 29, 1977

Judith A. Hoffberg, Editor  
ARLIS/NA Newsletter  
P.O. Box 3692  
Glendale, CA 91201

Dear Ms. Hoffberg:

I am writing in response to your request in the February 1977 Newsletter for feedback concerning the format of the ARLIS/NA Newsletter.

I am a library science student at Wayne State University in Detroit and have just joined ARLIS/NA this past January. Although I have only received two issues so far, I have found the Newsletter to be very interesting, helpful, and filled with valuable information. I enjoy reading the reports from the various committees, the ideas and suggestions from members, the book reviews, and especially the News and Notes section. I am hoping to become an art librarian and can already see that the Newsletter is a tremendous source of information for anyone seriously interested in this field.

Although I cannot speak for any of the other members, I personally do read the Newsletter cover to cover. I am delighted with the large size and am amazed with the amount of information crammed in. You are doing an outstanding job as editor, and my vote goes toward keeping the size and format of the Newsletter as it is now. Thank you for all of your hard work!

Sincerely yours,

*Judy Dyki*

Judy Dyki

Newsletter, Letters to the Editor about Newsletter  
1972-1977