



Arlis/ANZ

Arts Libraries Society
AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Chair's Report:

Arlis/ANZ AGM 11 November 2020

2020 has been an extraordinary year.

Organising the Arlis/ANZ Biennial Conference involved constant changes to the program, format and approach to engagement with our members in response to COVID 19 requirements.

Conference preparations

The collaboration with *artists books brisbane event* provided a great opportunity to expand our conference audience and membership across book arts and library communities.

Fortunately, over recent months -due to the very low rate of community transmission of the virus in Queensland- we were able to confidently plan an onsite event working closely with State Library to ensure the event will comply with COVID safe practices, while potentially engaging our interstate and international colleagues through streaming the entire event simultaneously.

The Arlis Executive group including Christene Drewe (SL) Judy Gunning (QAGOMA) Ellen Thompson and Alice Steiner (QUT) and I met regularly with Dr Tim Mosely (Convener of artists books brisbane event our conference partner) via Zoom to develop the program and format.

Support for the Conference

The State Library of Qld waived the hire costs for the use of the Edge spaces over the 3 days which represented a substantial saving on the total cost of hosting the conference.

QUT library also provided substantial in-kind support in the form of a volunteer librarian workforce to assist with registration, administration and staffing the conference.

In addition to the conference planning during 2020, we have established an improved, more sustainable Arlis/ANZ website and consolidated our membership base. In fact membership has increased considerably due to the administration of the Conference.

Treasurer Ellen Thompson has consolidated the financial accounts to reduce administration costs and duplication. Thank you Ellen.

Therese Nolan-Brown 11 November 2020