

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH VISUAL ARTS GROUP (SVAG)
HELD IN THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND ON WEDNESDAY 22
NOVEMBER 2000**

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Accepted with amendments

2. MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising

3. DACS

3.1 It was understood that Duncan of Jordanstone College and The Robert Gordon University were the only SVAG members to have signed up to the DACS scheme.

3.2 Member called for a wider view of copyright. She reported the view of SALCTG that the Higher Education sector must address all relevant copyright issues. Present awareness of problems was heavily dependent on case lore. Member endorsed this view. He was particularly concerned about the use of images in art and design practice, a grey area at present. He reminded colleagues that new European copyright legislation was due early in 2001 and might change thinking on rights issues radically.

3.3 Member spoke of the popularity of the subscription arrangements for academic libraries for access to the AMICO (Art Museum Image Consortium) Library of digital documentation of works of art. Member added that, despite some criticism of the lack of accompanying data, images were created to a common format and subscribers could select thumbnail or in-depth viewing. Member drew a parallel with the service offered by SCRAN. The meeting recognised the differences between US law applying to services such as AMICO and UK law.

3.4 Secretary agreed to compile a letter on copyright issues, with the help of members, to send to SCURL, the parent body of SVAG and a powerful voice in the library world.

4. VISUAL RESOURCES WORKING GROUP

The Group had been unable to make progress with the results of the survey. Secretary expressed concern that the survey data was now losing its currency and undertook to contact the group

5. ARTISTS' BOOKS DATABASE

Secretary had written to RGU to express concern that SVAG had not been

mentioned in the bid to the Arts and Humanities Research Board. Robert Newton had replied, recognising the importance of SVAG to the project and saying that SVAG should take a pro-active role in it. He expected to hear the result of the bid in December. He proposed to use books held in ECL in a pilot study. Secretary said that, if the bid from RGU was not successful, she would like to submit a bid from SVAG. She encouraged those members who were not on the SVAG discussion list to join it, so that information on the artists' books project could be easily shared.

6. VISUAL ARTS RESEARCH INSTITUTE, EDINBURGH

The conference **Britannia, Italia and Germania: taste and travel 1815-1870** had taken place successfully earlier in November. Further conferences were planned, including **The Stewart Court in Exile**, to be held in May/June 2001.

7. REPORT BY PUBLICITY OFFICER

7.1 Officer was now concentrating on updating the web version of the *Directory*. Revised information was being sought from members and the updated version should be available by the end of the year.

7.2 Officer had written an article on SVAG, which would appear in the forthcoming issue of the *ARLIS News-sheet*.

7.3 Officer was in the process of getting costings for a new printing of the leaflet.

8. LIBRARY UPDATE

Given

9. ELECTION OF SECRETARY

A new Secretary was nominated and elected

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Member wondered if courses or workshops, similar to events run by ARLIS, might be run by SVAG in Scotland. Member said that she had organised an international conference in Edinburgh and underlined the collective experience of SVAG members who had been involved in organising other events. Member reminded members that this issue had been discussed before, but there was a potential conflict with ARLIS, especially in respect of the income generated from such courses. It was agreed that these difficulties did not apply to visits to member libraries.

10.2 Member raised the question of the revision of *Art Serials in Scottish Libraries*. The convenience of a listing in print was recognised, but Member said that NLS had now adopted a policy of publishing such listings online rather than in print, so the

options for a revision were either that NLS produced a browsing version on its website or that another member library undertook a print version. The meeting considered the continued value of both the UCABLIS catalogue and the serials list in the light of their lack of currency, of the growth of mechanisms for cross-searching catalogues and, in the case of serials, of the UK list being developed with special funding by the National Art Library. Member added that, following consideration of cataloguing standards by an UCABLIS sub-group, the way forward was due to be discussed at a meeting of contributors in Spring 2001.

11. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Edinburgh College of Art in the week beginning 11 June 2001, if possible on the 13th.