

DESIGN STUDIES FORUM AT CAA 2008  
Friday, February 22, 2008

Leslie Atzmon  
David Brody  
Lorie Rubeling  
Christina Cogdell  
David Raizman  
Nic Maffei  
Rebecca Targ  
Rudy Meier  
Grace Lees-Maffei  
Elizabeth Guffey  
Daniel Huppertz  
Sarah Teasley  
Kristina Wilson  
Glenn Adamson  
Kerri Steinberg  
Ezra Shales  
Catherine Whalen

Meeting opens at 5:30 pm  
Introductions

**MEMBERSHIP**

525 people; Tax exempt non-profit

**JOURNAL**

3 new associate editors; goal of being more international  
33 people from 12 different countries  
Description of next few issues  
How to get DSF members involved; bridge is publications committee of DSF  
Book review section: 40-50 book/exhibition reviews a year: 750 words per review  
Peer reviewers needed, too.  
Focus on creating a critical discourse on "design" as it is construed today

We will put pdf on dsf website with more information re: ways to contribute to journal with more specifics

**WEBSITE**

Fulcrum for growth within the field  
Lists of resources available  
Designed by Rebecca Targ, implemented by Matt Ferranto  
Online image databases  
Questions:  
list of peer-reviewed journals, commercial journals? Tom Hapgood: annual design competitions for students

SYLLABI ON WEBSITE:

Org. of American Historians as a model: blog ("virtual roundtable")  
Brody: possible to just upload  
Lees-Maffei: Globalizing Art, Architecture and Design History website did something along those lines (glaadh.ac.uk)  
Key courses: Intro to Design Studies; what is the first course your students take?  
Guffey: Discussion: why the instructor did certain things, what the pedagogy was (prefatory synopsis included for each syllabus)  
Exchange so we know what everyone is doing

LIST OF GRADUATE DESIGN STUDIES PROGRAMS

Sorting out divisions of programming (graduate degrees in design studies programs) What to do with practice based programs with serious theory component. Comment from listserv: don't separate theory from practice. Humanities-based and practice-based as two tracks  
Mike Press PhD Research through practice, Center for Research into Practice (Hartfordshire)

Practice-based research AHRC (Glenn Adamson)  
Why draw distinctions?  
Atzmon: Humanities-based, practice-based, hybrid  
Discussion of naming second category  
Brody: Idea is to have a list of programs?  
Rubeling: An article about programs? Ongoing.

Maffei: Will there be a newsletter?  
Guffey: Journal doesn't come out frequently enough to discuss things like this. Like Design History Society.  
Wilson: What about the website as a venue for this?  
Lees-Maffei: Onus on publicizer? Simple form online?  
Brody, Guffey: Too complex  
Lees-Maffei: You don't want to do the work of the directory.

Lees-Maffei: It would be good to see a listing of members' interests  
Teasley: JAHF is members only.  
Lees-Maffei: Center for Study of Domestic Interior (closed now) had list of PhDs and list of exact interests

### **REPORT ON PROGRESS**

SAH: Some kind of collab with other CAA-affiliate groups. Get discussion going about design areas.  
Teasley talked with SAH VP Dietrich Neumann, result of the conversation: SAH open to increased communication and collaboration  
Guffey: met with Dennis Ichiyama re: AIGA. Wants to combine efforts, joint business meetings, joint panels. They have difficulty getting things going with AIGA at CAA. Dennis wants someone from DSF on CAA board.  
Adamson reports:  
New German Design History Association would be great collab: GFDG.org, Sigried Graner  
Alice Twemlow has a background with AIGA and is returning to design history (Lees-Maffei)  
Lees-Maffei: Design History Society collab? Adamson and Maffei are on board  
Meier: Who's part of it, who's the website for? Inward-looking...  
Guffey: Journal is trying to reach out internationally  
Teasley: International Cttee on Design History and Studies, Presence at Osaka  
Maffei: Orgs like Society for the History of Technology, Material Culture Caucus, American Studies Association  
Guffey: Send out call on listserve

### **ELECTION**

David Brody proposes to continue the current slate:  
Kristina Wilson seconds:  
No oppositions or abstentions. All in favor. Guffey, Teasley and Targ reelected.

### **DUES**

DSF survey in 2006, 100+ respondents, 78% in favor of dues, majority 50-60\$  
Benefits: subscription to journal, discounts on Berg titles  
Possibilities: parts of website, listserv only for paying members  
Teasley: suggestion listserv open to all, dues \$50-60  
Brody: what does the money go toward?  
40\$ for Berg, survey costs, student prize, book prize, DSF sponsored symposium for 2009 launch  
Guffey: Journal costs \$40 per year for each subscription, we get remainder if we charge dues; Awards made possible  
Atzmon: Do members have to join CAA to join DSF?

Teasley moves to establish dues of \$60 per year. Atzmon seconds.

Lees-Maffei: Most people have access to Journal of Design History, so no real benefit. Problem for us.  
Raizman: Do people stop memberships because they don't care if they get the journal?  
Lees-Maffei: Yes.  
Hupputz: Maybe enable continued membership with options to present at conference based on membership  
Members-only portal is a draw  
Website important in providing a package of services  
Listserv open to all dues-paying or not  
Maffei: Student fee reduced?  
Syllabus exchange: Available for members only.

Atzmon moves to amend in order to set up a structure of dues. Teasley okays. David Brody seconds. All in favor.

## **BOOK AWARD**

DHS has discontinued theirs.

Lees-Maffei: lack of nominations. The society had a great deal of trouble getting enough noms in to make it a meaningful award. Ethics of rewarding excellence rather than fostering emergent scholarship. Benefit of doing book award is publicity for those subjects.

Guffey: could publish parts of book in journal. Reviewers could be ad hoc nominators.

Pursue more rigorously (not voting)

Recognizing student papers.

Lees-Maffei: Student essay prize; UG and G categories. Very successful. The winner is put forward for consideration to the editorial board for publication. Berg would want to be involved. Might give books to students.

Teasley: JAHF does something like this

## **PEER REVIEW PROCESS**

List of theses and dissertations (like Art Bulletin does)

Might not get a lot of movement initially

Brody: Codified process; forms, get it in on time; takes time.

Teasley: List on members only side of site

Brody: Send out forms to those schools; important part of that bulletin

Guffey: See how discipline is starting to take shape.

Meier: Scan to see that nobody else is doing what you're doing.

Guffey: Get a number of submissions and then post them. If solidifies, then start publishing in journal (once there's momentum)

Atzmon: Go back 5 years, maybe. Initial call could be retrospective.

Guffey: Bryana Devine has been doing a lot of this work. Very difficult.

## **DSF/DESIGN AND CULTURE SPONSORED SYMPOSIUM**

Conicoid with launch of journal; NYC with local speakers; get something under our belt; along lines of conference

Daniel Huppertz was talking about; theme: Design: What's in a Word

Syllabus-gathering could be part of that symposium.

Meier: Website DSF is trying to reconcile teaching with activities of journal. Seems forced. Website is all about pedagogy, and two haven't come together. Maybe symposium can bring them together.

Guffey: One of tensions is between pedagogy and question of History/Theory/Criticism. Also tension between practitioners and theoreticians. Journal is representing one edge of activity. Some space within journal for pedagogy, but still tension.

Meier: Bring journal into website instead of website into journal.

## **MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Atzmon: Write NEH grant for summer intensive workshops; for design educators with MFAs to beef up research techniques; what a PhD grad student would get; research techniques; here in US some can't get tenure; People who are interested in writing to find rigor; a lot of writing is light; Knows a lot of studio who are scholars.

Rubeling: Could go through listserv to find out how many would attend

Meier: Reverberates for me because at my college; oldest degree-granting college in Canada; always debate regarding who is allowed to teach liberal arts and sciences; it's who has got the degree

Atzmon: Can't count as art history class

Meier: Criteria in fine arts in Canadian schools is terminal degree; now PhD programs are terminal in studio programs

Guffey calls for a motion to adjourn.

Atzmon moves to adjourn, Ezra Shales seconds.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm