

EDITORIAL

This is a year of anniversaries. ARLIS/Norden is 10 years old. In its 21st year ARLIS/ANZ is celebrating its 'coming of age'. ARLIS/NA held its 25th Anniversary Conference at San Antonio in April. I am personally conscious of the passing of time, having completed 25 years of service to art librarianship before bowing out – this is my penultimate issue of the *Art Libraries Journal*, and the last to which I will contribute an editorial.

In our last issue we celebrated 10 years of ARLIS/Norden. The 'coming of age' of ARLIS/ANZ is marked by an article by Margaret Shaw in this issue. Although we are not able to offer a comparable retrospect of ARLIS/NA's first quarter of a century, I hope it may be considered appropriate to mark the occasion with the text of my keynote address to the Convocation at the San Antonio conference – I was asked to review '25 years of service to the arts information community' from an international perspective – and, since I find I have absolutely nothing more to say, perhaps this may also serve as my own farewell. Retiring President Jack Robertson suggested, and has facilitated, the addition of the texts of several new and/or revised policies approved by the ARLIS/NA Executive Board regarding formal terms of affiliation with other bodies around the world. But also, we are privileged to have the opportunity to publish one of the best-received papers from the San Antonio Conference by former ARLIS/NA President, Lyn Korenic.

The aforementioned ARLIS/NA policy statements include a new policy committing the association to send, 'whenever possible', a representative to the 'annual conferences of foreign affiliates'. It is striking just how international many 'domestic' ARLIS conferences have become, and the San Antonio conference was no exception. And without doubt the senior delegate from outside North America was the indefatigable Jacqueline Viaux, whose commitment to art librarianship is total. For the record, may I repeat a clarification which I sought to explain at the Convocation? If it is strictly correct that I was the first Chair of the IFLA *Section* of Art Libraries, this was simply because of the procedure by which a new IFLA group has to prove its viability, first as a *Round Table*, then as a *provisional* Section. Jacqueline Viaux was the first Chair of the first gathering of art

librarians within IFLA, and she led that group through its first years which saw it become, not merely viable, but one of the most vital groups within IFLA. Jacqueline was the first, and those who followed built on the foundations which she established.