

## Minutes of the Visual Resources Association Canada Chapter

November 2, 2007

**In attendance:** Eric Schwab (Ontario College of Art & Design), Harriet Sonne-Torrens (University of Toronto Mississauga), Peggy Haist (University of Toronto, Department of Art), Jane Rhodes (Art Gallery of Ontario), Anita Regan (Dalhousie University), Gordon Belray (University of Toronto, Robarts Library), Janice Anderson (Concordia University), Adam Lauder (University of Windsor), Irene Gotz (Ontario College of Art & Design), Lesley Bell (Brock University), Brenda MacEachern (University of Western Ontario), Ed Sernie (McMaster University), Nancy Duff (Carlton University), Michèle Métraux (York University, via web cast), Hildegard Lindschinger (Wilfred Laurier University, via web cast).

**1. Introductions:** Attendees introduced themselves to the group.

**2.0 Formation of the Chapter:** By-laws approved by attendees after minor alterations to the draft prepared by Eric Schwab and Adam Lauder (annual membership fee raised from \$10 to \$15); by-laws to be submitted by Eric Schwab to the VRA Board for final approval. Membership fees collected by Peggy Haist. Approval of proposal to accept non-voting associate members (annual associate fee set at \$15). Eric and Peggy agreed to establish a not-for-profit bank account for the Chapter with RBC. Eric will send an official request on VRA letterhead.

**2.1 Elections:** Eric Schwab elected Chair. Peggy Haist elected Treasurer. Adam Lauder elected Secretary.

**2.2 Purpose of Chapter:** The group discussed the possible role of the Chapter in lobbying government for changes to the Copyright Act. There was discussion of striking a committee to assist in the planning for the forthcoming VRA conference in Toronto (2009): the group agreed to send a request to the Board to be involved in the planning (along with by-laws).

**3. Planning for Next Meeting:** Harriet Sonne-Torrens accepted responsibility for hosting the next meeting of the chapter at University of Toronto Mississauga (date set for sometime in February, 2008).

**4. Demonstration of OCAD's Digital Image Collection:** Eric Schwab gave a demonstration of the online image collection that he has developed at OCAD; guest speaker Andrew McAllister, OCAD's Manager of Digital Studios, presented an overview of his work on the OCAD website.

**5. Copyright:** The group discussed copyright and the relative priorities of access and quality viz. the delivery of visual resources in an academic context.