



from the president

Wayne Labar
President

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Dear NAME Members,

Over the summer the NAME Board underwent its biennial transition as exiting members stepped down or moved into new positions, and new NAME members joined the Board. As the incoming President, on behalf of the Board, I want to express a huge THANK YOU and a deep sense of gratitude to each of these individuals, their firms and institutions, and even their families. Of particular note, Doug Simpson, who served as the President of NAME for the past four years, deserves special recognition and gratitude from us all. Exhibitionist is undergoing changes as well: after serving for seven years as Editor, Gretchen Jennings is stepping down. Under her leadership, Exhibitionist has been transformed into one of the leading journals in the exhibition field.

NAME has now become the largest Professional Network in the AAM family and has the largest presence and rate of participation for the annual AAM meeting. Given these shifts, the NAME Board will be leading several initiatives:

- We plan to undertake a renewal of the graphic design, name, availability, and marketing of the Exhibitionist. We want to make sure the publication serves all of the members of NAME, remains intellectually rich and relevant, and reaches members as well as non-members. In reality, the Exhibitionist has the potential to become THE exhibition journal for all museums, science centers, zoos, visitor centers, libraries, and other public venues.
- We will increase efforts to engage NAME members in local events that offer the opportunity for those interested in or practicing in the exhibition field to come together, network, and share successes, failures, methods, and practices in an effort to build a supportive network as well as bring new people into the NAME family. In the coming year, AAM will be launching the next round of long-range planning. As part of this effort, the Board of AAM met with the entire Professional Network Council to hear directly about important issues as well as possible opportunities to break down organizational silos and open up collaboration among all the Professional Networks.

On behalf of the Board, let me conclude with an invitation to reach out and contact your regional representative, a Board member you know personally, or myself directly if you have any ideas or thoughts on how NAME can better serve the exhibition field. Together, we look forward to making NAME even stronger, richer, and—just as important—more fun.

Cheers!