Invitation to November 18 Focused Discussion Session (Senior/midcareer scholars)

From: Mariet Westermann
Sent: Tuesday, November 8, 2005, 6:38 AM
To: "Art History Scholars"
Subject: Scholarly Publication Meeting at IFA 11-18-05

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for agreeing to participate in the Study of Scholarly Publication in Art History funded by the Mellon Foundation that Hilary Ballon and I are undertaking. This message contains information about the meeting on Friday, November 18, which will bring together twelve senior scholars in the discipline.

The meeting will take place in at the Institute of Fine Arts, 1 East 78th Street, in the Seminar Room on the main floor. We will begin promptly at noon with a working lunch and end by 3:30 p.m. In our meeting, we hope to explore your views of the current state of scholarly publication, challenges in getting published, publishing trends and their impact on scholars at different stages of their career, publishing requirements for tenure, and your thoughts on digital publishing and other potential responses to the current situation.

For our study, research on publishing trends in our field is being conducted by Lawrence McGill, Deputy Director of the Center for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies at Princeton University. In advance of the meeting, would you please send him your c.v. and a completed version of the attached questionnaire. His e-mail address is lmcgill@princeton.edu. The questionnaire lays the groundwork for the discussion on November 18 and will provide basic information for the final report that Hilary and I will submit to the Mellon Foundation. Your questionnaire responses will be held confidential.

Larry McGill will need detailed notes of the meeting in order to prepare his research report. He would like to supplement his notes by audio-taping the proceedings. The tape is for research purposes only and will be destroyed upon completion of the report. Confidentiality is guaranteed. If you have any concerns, please let me know.

If you are coming from outside New York City, your travel expenses will be reimbursed. I have attached a Columbia University Travel Expense form which should be completed at the end of the trip and returned, with original receipts, to Kate Wittenberg, 507 Butler Library, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027. Kate, whom you will meet on November 18, directs the digital publishing initiatives at Columbia and has extensive experience with scholarly publishing. She serves as a consultant on this study.

You are cordially invited to stay after the meeting for a 4:00 pm lecture by Marjorie E. Cohn, Emerita Curator of Prints at the Fogg Art Museum, titled "The Eyes Have It, or, Simply Looking."

Again please send your c.v. and the completed questionnaire to Larry McGill as soon as possible. Hilary and I thank you warmly for attending the meeting, and look forward to seeing you on November 18.

Best regards,

Mariët Westermann

Director and Professor Institute of Fine Arts - NYU