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BOARD DOCUMENT

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Anne Caputo, Chapter Cabinet Chair
Sonya Donoghue, President, Australia and New Zealand Chapter

DATE: 21 September 2006

RE: Application for Special Programs Fund from Australia and New Zealand Chapter

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Directors approve \$2,000 above the annual allotment from the general operations budget to support travel expenses for the President of the Australia and New Zealand Chapter to attend the Leadership Summit in Reno, NV on January 24-27, 2007.

RETURN ON INVESTMENT: It is in the long-term best interest of SLA to support and encourage the continued health and growth of the Australia and New Zealand Chapter. The presence of a chapter officer at the Leadership Summit will enrich both the chapter growth as well as the global understanding of the entire SLA community.

BACKGROUND: The Chapter is still in a developmental stage, operating trans-nationally between Australia and New Zealand which adds to the complexity of communication and cost. The exchange rate between NZ and US continues to fall, making travel costs considerable. The Summit is always in a North American venue making the cost of travel from non-North American countries considerably more expensive. The attendance at a Leadership Summit would bring ongoing benefits to the new Chapter. It is a condition of this funding that that the Chapter President proactively share knowledge gained with current and potential leaders in the chapter to ensure maximum benefit. The University Librarian at the University of Auckland has been very supportive of SLA, covering membership fees, allowing free use of University venues and will most likely approve and fund attendance at the SLA Conference in Denver 2007.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT: The recommendation stipulates that \$2,000 be disbursed to the chapter from the general operations budget. Article X: Chapters, Section 3. states "...Requests for additional funds or loans may be submitted to the board and may be granted by the board at its discretion. All funds received by a chapter shall be used exclusively for purposes incident to fulfillment of the Association's objectives.

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