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TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Angela Horne, Chair
DATE: 30 April 2007
RE: Student and Academic Affairs Advisory Council Annual Report 2006-2007

As approved by the Board of Directors at the June 2006 annual conference, SAAAC was re-cast as an advisory council to replace SARC, the Student and Academic Relations Committee.

Due to the geographic distance of our council members, we conduct SAAAC business primarily via phone conference calls and via e-mail; we appreciate being able to use SLA's central phone conference system. It is often difficult to schedule calls at the optimal time for all SAAAC members, but a majority are usually able to participate. We all juggle work and other obligations with our SLA volunteer duties, and it is refreshing to see such dedication from SAAAC members despite their general business.

During the past year we have built upon the excellent work begun by SARC in the past and have undertaken several new activities including a student communications survey.

New activities:

- The student communications survey drafted last year was revised and sent to all SLA student members and faculty advisors. We were interested in learning what type of information students would like to receive as well as the frequency of communications. We received 306 responses and some surprising results. Initial analysis reveals that 85% of respondents prefer information e-mail and only 20% prefer blogged content. Only 11% of respondents have attended SLA's annual conference but almost 40% have attended a student group meeting. We will analyze the results over the next few months and seek ways to action the survey's suggestions.
- We also gathered information about Denver meeting events that would interest our student attendees. These events were solicited via the Leadership list and then sent to the Denver planners for inclusion on the Denver wiki/blog. Student attendees will receive an e-mail that points them to the wiki. Next year we hope to solicit funding to cover the cost of printing a student events flyer for distribution at the annual conference.
- At SLA HQ's request, we provided feedback concerning ALA's proposed changes to LIS accreditation standards.

- We have scheduled a career panel of SLA Fellows to accompany the Merit Award presentations on Monday, June 4th.

Continuing activities:

- As in the past, SAAAC members have served this year as direct contacts with the student group leadership and student group faculty advisors at each school.
- At least one Student Group, University at Buffalo, became inactive this year. The Upstate New York Chapter President-Elect will meet with the UB faculty this summer and try to reinvigorate the group.
- As of the writing of this report, we were still gathering Merit Award nominations to select the winning Student Group in each of these areas: outstanding leadership, innovative programming, and creative use of electronic resources. These awards will be presented at the Denver conference.
- The yearly SAAAC in-person meeting will take place in Denver on Sunday, June 3 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Among the items for this meeting are: reaching out to international students; offering WebEx career sessions for students; updating our website; developing a student-focused blog or wiki; reviewing the survey results; and setting goals and priorities for the coming year.
- The annual Merit Award presentations will occur on Monday, June 4, 4:00-5:30pm, followed by networking opportunities with the alumni receptions that will be held Monday evening. As a new feature of this session, a few SLA Fellows will participate in a career panel intended to give student attendees an overview of career options.

We would like to thank two people who have been instrumental in helping us this year: Rebecca Vargha, SLA President who found time to be our Board liaison for part of the past year and shared deep insights into SLA; and Tenikka Greene, SLA Membership Services Associate. Tenikka's gentle reminders and overall knowledge of SLA policies and procedures have been invaluable.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Student and Academic Affairs Advisory Council:

Linda Drake (2004-2009)
Angela Horne, Chair (2004-2008)
Jill Konieczko (2006-2009)
John Leide (2005-2009)
Elsie Okobi (2005-2009)
Tiffany Schureman, Student Representative (2006-2007)
Cynthia Wilson (2004-2008)
Tenikka Greene, Staff Liaison