

SLA Vision and Mission Statements

Vision

SLA is the global organization for innovative information professionals and their strategic partners.

Mission

SLA promotes and strengthens its members through learning, advocacy, and networking initiatives.

331 South Patrick Street
Alexandria, VA 22310



SLA
Connecting People
and Information

PERFORMANCE



HIGHLIGHTS



December 31, 2005

SLA is THE premier association for information professionals.

SLA offers a range of exciting possibilities: a safe and supportive environment for information professionals to grow and become leaders in their profession and in their organizations; a place for the leaders of the profession to expand their horizons by helping others to learn about the future and its possibilities; a community of which we can all be proud, as SLA learns from the collective experiences of members, partners, and other stakeholders and evolves to serve their needs. The sum of these endeavors is that SLA strives to be THE premier association for information professionals.

For over two years, SLA has focused on learning, networking, and advocacy as the core components of our mission. In 2005, SLA made bold leaps in the delivery of meaningful programs, services, and activities to advance our mission. Those leaps mean one thing: the information professional has a home for growth, leadership, and a promise to strive for excellence in the profession.

Below are highlights of SLA's performance in 2005.

SLA is a Learning Organization



SLA exists to promote and strengthen the profession. Nowhere in our mission is this more directly valued than by continually developing experiences for our members to learn, experience, and grow.

- SLA launched Click University, the first and only online learning system designed for the global community of information professionals. Click University offers courses on a range of subjects, including programs designed by thought leaders in the profession. It is available only to members of SLA.
- SLA doubled the number of programs offered through the Virtual Learning Series – a total of 22 programs in 2005 -- and reduced our prices by 50 percent.
- SLA continued the evolution of live learning opportunities at the SLA Annual Conference, by recording several programs and posting them onto Click University so that all SLA members may access them.
- SLA forged a partnership with Drexel University and Syracuse University to provide discounted access to certificate and degree programs offered by those institutions.
- The Association's volunteer leaders revitalized the SLA Leadership Summit, with programming focusing on general leadership development. Summit registration was opened to all SLA members.

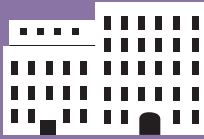
Globalization is Vital for Success



SLA is committed to a focus on international growth and development of the profession.

- SLA expanded its public relations, advertising, and exhibition efforts, particularly in Australia / New Zealand, Europe, and Mexico.
- SLA leadership attended many conferences and chapter events in 2005, but paid specific attention to outreach beyond North America.
- SLA 2005 drew participants from 45 countries around the world – further proof that the Association is indeed a global community of information professionals.
- SLA becomes more involved in international organizations and events, as the Executive Director is asked to serve on the IFLA Operations Review Task Force, and the Online Information Conference Expert Advisory Committee.

Community Builds Relationships that Last



With a global membership, SLA seeks innovative approaches to building community to perpetuate the value and values of the profession.

- SLA 2005 was one of the most successful SLA events in recent memory, as over 5,200 participants were in Toronto for the Annual Conference. The 2005 INFO-EXPO was the largest SLA exhibition for the information industry since 1997.
- During SLA 2005, the Association's first Web log – or "blog" – was launched in order to share news and content from the events and activities taking place in Toronto. The dramatic success of that blog yielded 8 new blogs created by or for SLA members by the end of 2005.
- SLA's Board of Directors approved the creation of the Architecture, Building Engineering, Design, and Construction Caucus; and the Inclusion Caucus.
- SLA members approved a change to the Association's bylaws that allows for electronic voting on future amendments to its bylaws and Board of Directors elections.
- SLA executed its first-ever online vote of the full membership on an amendment to the bylaws that facilitated a restructuring of the Association's dues.
- The SLA Board of Directors approved a special discount offer, whereby members may pay for three years' dues in advance with a 10 percent discount.

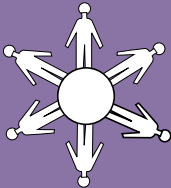
Advocacy Promotes Our Value and Values



While the value and values of the information profession are evident in our members, SLA aims to communicate and share this knowledge with appropriate external audiences, so that the profession continues to grow and be valued.

- SLA Executive Director Janice Lachance represented SLA and the United States library community at the World Summit on the Information Society, and was an integral part of the U.S. delegation.
- SLA partnered with AALL and AFFECT to produce one of the Association's 2005 Virtual Learning Series programs, a seminar on end user licenses for information.
- SLA Awards and Honors were conferred on 23 individuals for their professional excellence and their commitment to the information profession.
- International media outreach continues to be a high priority for SLA, with articles successfully placed in several magazines and journals around the world in 2005.

Society Benefits from Our Work



Whether offering learning experiences to continue the information professional's development or conducting research on the profession, SLA must deliver benefits to our global society and its ongoing quest for greater knowledge and prosperity.

- SLA organized the Information Professionals Alliance on Natural Disasters and Accidents (IPANDA) to respond to the string of devastating events that shook the world in 2005.
- SLA forged an agreement with the World Computer Exchange to provide surplus computer equipment to organizations in developing nations around the world.
- The SLA Board of Directors approved a one-year extension of member services to members affected by major natural disasters in 2005.

Smart Financial Management Makes it All Happen



SLA succeeds because of its members, but successful stewardship of the association's financial resources is critical to ongoing growth. All of the highlights shown here could not be possible without a partnership between staff and our volunteer leadership to guide our financial planning and execution in the best interests of the membership.

- SLA completed 2005 with a surplus – the third consecutive year of successful budget planning and execution.
- In particular, SLA 2005 and the Info-Expo delivered strong financial results for the Association.
- Sales for the 2006 INFO-EXPO were strong in 2005, achieving its sales goal for the year in October.
- SLA's launch of Click University – coupled with the growth of the Virtual Learning Series – gives promise for a strong performance in SLA learning services.

Growth is the Hallmark of a Thriving SLA



An organization succeeds only if it is moving forward. SLA aims to set the standard for growth in the global community of information professionals. It drives our thinking for the benefit of the profession. It inspires our members to follow our example in their careers. It delivers on our societal mission to promote the sharing of information and knowledge around the world.

To review the 2005 SLA Annual Report visit www.sla.org/05report.