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TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Tom Rink, Division Cabinet Chair
DATE: 11 May 2009
RE: Division Cabinet Update

There has been a lot of activity among the divisions so far this year. Despite the numerous library closings during these difficult economic times, members are engaged and continue to encourage and support those who have found themselves on the wrong side of this economic crisis. In addition to the wonderful conference planning (over 400 workshops and sessions have been planned for this our Centennial Conference), discussion lists continue to be active, divisions are brainstorming what they can do to remain viable (the News Division actually had a "virtual verandah" thread on their discussion list to explore this very topic), and scope notes and bylaws are being amended and updated. Here is a brief recap on what's been happening with the Divisions.

- Our newest division, the Academic Division, is rapidly approaching 200 members (194 as of May 11th).
- The Biomedical and Life Sciences Division has received a lot of press and good PR for SLA with their "Top 100 Journals in Biology and Medicine" initiative.
- The Education Division and the Environment and Resource Management Division have updated their scope notes.
- The Legal Division has updated their governing document.
- There is a group of members exploring interest in the creation of a new taxonomy/meta data division.
- The Pharmaceutical and Health Sciences Division had their Spring Meeting (in Napa, CA, March 22-24, 2009). The title: "On the Horizon: Information Tools and Resources for Your Evolving Needs."
- The Military Libraries Division has their annual workshop scheduled for December 2009, in Nashville, TN.
- Divisions with Anniversaries this year (congratulations to all):
 - News (85th)
 - Science and Technology (85th)
 - Education (35th)
 - Environment and Resource Management (20th)
 - Competitive Intelligence (5th)
 - Government Information (5th)

Side note, this year marks the 20th Anniversary of the very first Caucus (Solo Librarians) to be formed. By 1991 they were a full-fledged Division.

In addition to what the divisions are doing individually, there is also work being done by the Division Structure Workgroup (separate report submitted) to study and assess the entire divisional structure. Lots of great ideas are being identified . . . stay tuned for more on this later. Recommendations from this group will be forthcoming in the not too distant future.

Sunday's Leadership Development Institute is planned and ready to go. Included in the half-day Institute:

- Painfree Public Speaking
- Candidate Panel (President-Elect and Treasurer Candidates)
- Alignment Update
- Top Ten Picks For Your Leadership Toolkit

Additionally, a Candidate Panel for the Candidates for the Cabinet Chair-Elects will take place during the Joint Cabinet meeting on Tuesday.

I would also like to personally thank each and every member of the Board who will be assisting with the proctoring of the Divisional Annual Business Meetings this week. I have again created a template for you to use as you proctor these meetings. Please return these completed forms to either myself or Ann Sweeney at your earliest convenience. If the business meeting is a ticketed event, the ticket should be included in your registration packet. If there are problems, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Rink
Division Cabinet Chair