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TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Election Process Review Task Force

DATE: January 15, 2010

RE: **Election Statement of Intent**

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Directors accept the SLA Election Statement of Intent as found below.

RETURN ON INVESTMENT: Specific guidelines that will level the playing field for all SLA Board of Directors candidates. The policy takes into account the current communication platforms as well as new social outlets.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: We recommend this statement of intent which is based on the policy used by American Association for Law Libraries (AALL.) The Statement of Intent provides SLA candidates with high level guidelines as to the letter and spirit of their candidacy during the election cycle for a position on the SLA Board of Directors.

SLA Election Policy Statement of Intent

I. Purpose

The following policy governs candidates during the election process for office in SLA. It is intended to assure that all candidates are treated fairly and equitably and that they are able to participate in the election process without undue political pressure from member groups, or excessive requirements to commit their time or other resources to the election process. Candidates are encouraged to become well informed about Association issues in the event that they are asked to comment on them in one of the ways permitted by this Policy. Candidates should do all they can to ensure that Association entities, Divisions, Sections, Caucuses, Committees, and Chapters, are treated fairly and equitably themselves and other candidates for the same position on the Board of Directors.

II. Policy

Candidates may not campaign for elected office by engaging in such activities as distributing flyers, buttons, other promotional items, or fund raising that are intended to persuade members to vote for them.

Candidates may express their opinions or ideas about professional issues dealing with information management, leadership, knowledge management, and librarianship at any time and in any format.

Candidates may express their opinions or ideas about SLA policies or issues only under circumstances that assure fairness to the other candidates for the same position on the Board of Directors. All candidates for the same position on the Board of Directors must participate in the SLA sponsored events or activities, such as the published candidates' statements that appear in SLA's Information Outlook each year. Candidates may not make promises about future actions that will be taken by the Board of Directors. Candidates may not respond or comment on another candidate's views or positions.

Candidates may participate at meetings, on listservs, other communication platforms and/or other events sponsored by SLA entities, such as Divisions and Chapters, as long as they conform to all aspects of this policy.

Candidates may not seek nor should they receive endorsements from SLA entities such as Divisions and Chapters, vendor partners, or individuals.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT: N/A

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