



Global Headquarters
331 South Patrick Street
Alexandria, VA 22314 USA
1-703-647-4900
Fax: 1-703-647-4901
www.sla.org

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: SLA Scholarship Committee
DATE: 23 December 2009
RE: Annual Report

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Directors accept the proposed shortening of the Scholarship Committee timeline to allow each future Scholarship Committee to decide on the Scholarship winners and present their award winners with their scholarship checks at the Association Annual Conference in June.

RETURN ON INVESTMENT: No additional investment required.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: After the Scholarship Awards meeting in June 2009 there was discussion about ways the SLA Scholarship Committee could shorten the scholarship award cycle by taking better advantage of technology so that each scholarship committee decides on the scholarship award winners that will be giving the award winners their checks at the annual conference. We realized that the current scholarship committee cycle was never changed when the association changed its calendar a couple of years ago nor had it taken advantage of technology to communicate and shorten that cycle. Much of the process for the scholarship cycle is staff driven as they put out the announcements about the scholarships to all of the Library and Information Sciences programs and try to ensure receipt of all necessary documentation for the scholarship committee's consideration and decisions and this will not change; only the dates for the Committee's decision would start in January and make their decisions by March so as to give award winners sufficient notice to attend the annual conference and receive their award. Communications about the candidates would be scanned and sent electronically only to those involved in the decision and to help speed the process.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT: None except some small staff time savings by communicating electronically rather than having to get packages sent to all those involved in the process.

Prepared by: Doris Helfer
Produced by: Doris Helfer
Reviewed by: Paula Diaz