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To: SLA Board of Directors

From: Bylaws Committee

Date: 7 December 2009

RE: **Bylaws Committee 2009 Annual Report**

Membership:

Julie Stich, Chair (2006-2009)
Sara Davis (2008-2010)
Phillip Bocci (2009-2011)
Nettie Seaberry, Board Liaison
Nancy Sansalone, SLA Staff Committee Member

Meetings:

The Committee met electronically several times this year via e-mail. Three of us had the chance to briefly meet face-to-face at the Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

Accomplishments:

We have had a relatively quiet year, with only four action items.

1. We were contacted in March by Michael Sholinbeck, chair of the Environment and Resource Management Division (DERM) with a request to change the wording of their scope note. The Committee felt the change makes the scope note more comprehensive; that it more clearly defines the division's composition, interests and efforts; and that it allows flexibility. The proposed scope note change was approved on 31 March 2009.
2. Martha Foote, Chair of the Legal Division (DLEG), contacted us in April with a proposed revision of their bylaws. Because they had not yet switched to the model governing document, the proposed revisions were extensive. We asked them to use the governing document. In September, the Division submitted a proposed revised governing document for our approval. We approved their revision on 15 September 2009.
3. In September, Fred Rascoe, President of the Southern Appalachian Chapter (CSAP), informed the Committee that their membership had approved a name change, to the Tennessee Valley Chapter. He asked that we approve a revision to their governing document to reflect the name change. We did so on 29 September 2009.
4. In October, we were contacted by Catherine Lavalley-Welch, Chair of the Information Technology Division (DIET). Their membership had approved new scope, mission and vision statements which they wanted to incorporate into their bylaws. Their division had not yet switched to the governing document. We gave them their document, they inserted their new statements, and we approved the

revision on 5 November 2009. At last contact (30 November 2009), the Division's membership is voting on the change.

Looking ahead to 2010:

I have had conversations with Linda Broussard, SLA's Chief Community Officer, about units' compliance and noncompliance in using the governing document that was created for them in 2004. A planned effort to increase compliance was deferred in light of the association's proposed name change. If the name change is approved, all governing documents will need to be revised. Linda has told me that Nancy Sansalone, SLA's Chief Operating and Financial Officer, is seeking the advice of legal counsel on how the association should proceed with blanket amending of unit governing documents in light of a name change. It is anticipated that directives and compliance will be prescribed in 2010. If the name change does not pass, I suggest that the new Bylaws Chair continue to work with staff to ensure compliance from the majority of units.

On a personal note, I have enjoyed working on this Committee with past and present members. I am pleased that both Sara Davis and Phil Bocci have agreed to continue serving. The Committee will need one more member, for the term 2010-2012. Sara has agreed to be chair, and I have recommended her as well, if the incoming President, Anne Caputo, and her Volunteers Review Advisory Committee, chaired by Terri Brooks, so choose.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Stich
Chair, 2009 SLA Bylaws Committee