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**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** 2011 Committee on Association Governance  
**DATE:** 13 December 2011  
**RE:** Research and Development Committee, Awards & Honors Committee, Scholarship Committee and Technical Standards Committee

1. **Recommendation:** The Committee on Association Governance recommends that the Research and Development Committee be deactivated until such time as funding becomes available.

The current charge of the committee is:

**Research and Development Committee** – The Committee shall: a) develop the Association's research vision for action by the Board of Directors; b) advise the Board of Directors and the Association on matters pertaining to the advancement of research and its relation to practice in the information profession and related fields; c) advise and assist the Association's Director, Information Center in planning and evaluating the Association's activities in the area of research; d) encourage cooperative efforts with other groups toward the advancement of research in the information profession and related fields; e) maintain guidelines for the consideration of applications for funding that meets the purposes of the above; f) publicize the availability of funds and the process for applying; and g) evaluate the applications for grants and recommend to the Board of Directors those suitable for funding.

**Background:** This committee has one research grant-funded project winding to a close, and no funds have been budgeted for the upcoming year.

2. **Recommendation:** The Committee on Association Governance recommends that the Awards & Honors Committee remain with no changes to its charge.

The current charge of the committee is:

**Awards & Honors Committee** – The Committee shall: a) Recommend to the Board of Directors a program for Association-wide awards & honors; b) review and recommend to the Conference Committee changes to the recognition ceremony and the promotion of the awards and the recipients; c) elect according to the criteria stated for each award and report to the Board of Directors the recipients of the association awards; d) report to the Board of Directors the recipients of Association-wide awards or honors selected by other Association committees; e) coordinate those activities of any Association committee relating to SLA's association-wide awards & honors program, and f) recommend to the Board of Directors the recipients of honorary membership in SLA.

3. **Recommendation:** The Committee on Association Governance recommends that the Scholarship Committee be deactivated until such time as funding becomes available.

The current charge of the committee is:

**Scholarship Committee** – The Committee shall: a) recommend annually to the Board of Directors the number of scholarships to be awarded in accordance with the approved regulations governing the Scholarships Fund; b) receive and review applications for scholarships; c) select the scholarship winner(s); and d) initiate publicity regarding SLA scholarships.

**Background:** No funds have been budgeted for scholarships for 2012.

4. **Recommendation:** The Committee on Association Governance recommends that the Technical Standards Committee be dissolved, and that all activities charged to be conducted in collaboration with the Committee on Cataloging be vested solely in the Committee on Cataloging.

The current charge of the committee is:

**Technical Standards Committee** – The Committee shall: a) identify and disseminate to Association members information about existing and proposed standards for services and technologies, facilities, and resources of special libraries and information centers; b) review and comment on proposed technical standards and guidelines related to special libraries and information centers; c) recommend proposals to standards-issuing organizations for new or revised standards and guidelines related to special libraries and information centers; d) collaborate with the Committee on Cataloging to: 1) review and comment on proposed cataloging and/or classification standards from ANSI, NISO, or ISO; 2) recommend proposals for new or revised cataloging and/or classification standards to ANSI, NISO, or ISO; and 3) serve as liaison between the Association and other organizations concerned with technical standards.

**Background:** The activities of this committee have been severely scaled back since SLA no longer participates in NISO.

5. **Recommendation:** The Committee on Association Governance recommends that the charge of the Cataloging Committee be amended to remove reference to the Technical Standards Committee.

The new charge is:

Seven members appointed for overlapping terms of two years each. Members may be appointed as SLA representatives to other organizations with similar purposes. SLA representatives to other organizations who are not regular committee members shall serve as ex-officio members of the Committee for the terms of their appointments to those organizations.

1. Provide a venue for the exchange, consideration, and discussion of information relating to developments in the cataloging and classification of materials;
2. Study and monitor alternative systems for providing description and access, making recommendations as appropriate;
3. Provide a venue for receiving information from liaisons between the Association and other professional organizations with similar concerns, and providing input to those liaisons, for example the liaison to the Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA) of ALA;
4. Review and comment on proposed standards relating to cataloging and/or classification;

5. Recommend proposals for new or revised cataloging and/or classification standards to ANSI, NISO or ISO;
6. Provide input to standards- and guideline-setting organizations in the field of cataloging and classification; and
7. Communicate important issues and/or developments in cataloging and classification to members through the Association's publications, conferences, and/or other means.

The current charge of the committee is:

Seven members appointed for overlapping terms of two years each. Members may be appointed as SLA representatives to other organizations with similar purposes. SLA representatives to other organizations who are not regular committee members shall serve as ex-officio members of the Committee for the terms of their appointments to those organizations.

8. Provide a venue for the exchange, consideration, and discussion of information relating to developments in the cataloging and classification of materials;
9. Study and monitor alternative systems for providing description and access, making recommendations as appropriate;
10. Provide a venue for receiving information from liaisons between the Association and other professional organizations with similar concerns, and providing input to those liaisons, for example the liaison to the Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA) of ALA;
11. Collaborate with the Technical Standards Committee to: (a) review and comment on proposed standards relating to cataloging and/or classification and (b) recommend proposals for new or revised cataloging and/or classification standards to ANSI, NISO or ISO;
12. Provide input to standards- and guideline-setting organizations in the field of cataloging and classification, and
13. Communicate important issues and/or developments in cataloging and classification to members through the Association's publications, conferences, and/or other means.

**Background:** If the recommendation to dissolve the Technical Standards Committee is approved, it will be necessary to amend the charge of the Committee on Cataloging.

**General Background:** President Cindy Romaine asked the Committee on Association Governance to review the Research and Development Committee, the Awards & Honors Committee, Scholarship Committee and the Technical Standards Committee in light of budget and related concerns. The committee was charged to recommend whether each committee is still needed and/or any revision in its charge is needed. After talking to the SLA staff person who is the liaison to each Committee, the committee made the above recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair: Nancy Minter

Staff Committee Member: Linda Broussard

Committee Members:

Debal Kar

Nettie Seaberry

Jill Hurst-Wahl