

# **Special Libraries Association Chemistry Division Strategic Plan**

Approved June 7, 2004

## **Purpose**

A Strategic Plan is a living document, designed to help the Chemistry Division Board and Functionaries as they plan the activities of the Chemistry Division. It reflects the vision of the division members and of the Special Libraries Association (SLA) and should be reviewed regularly and updated as needed. A formal revision of the plan, the mission and the vision statements, should take place every five years and be endorsed by the Board and the division membership. The next revision takes place in 2007.

## **Mission Statement**

The SLA Chemistry Division actively participates in the creation, delivery, and promotion of information to serve the research and scholarly communication processes of a diverse clientele seeking or using chemical information. We support the core values of our parent organization, SLA which include leadership, service, innovation and continuous learning, results and accountability, and collaboration and partnering.\*

## **Vision Statement**

The Chemistry Division of the Special Libraries Association works to support the efforts of special, academic, government, research, and public librarians/information professionals to develop and deliver superior chemical information resources to their communities. The Division Membership encompasses all chemistry-related fields, including but not limited to, chemical technology, history of chemistry, chemical economics, and chemical engineering. We are committed to identifying and collaborating with strategic partners in chemical information delivery; attracting and retaining innovative and talented people to our Division; providing educational opportunities to our members through the Annual Meeting symposia and continuing education courses, informing and advising our members through programs, newsletters, discussion lists, and individual mentoring, and creating a technologically-advanced future for access to chemical information. Our Strategic Plan outlines our goals for the next five years, 2004-2008.

## **Goal 1: Provide channels of communication among members**

### **Strategies:**

- Maintain CHMINF-L as the primary vehicle for electronic communications
- Maintain Sci-Tech News as the Division's official bulletin
- Continue to expand and develop the Division's Website and its electronic newsletter, further encourage member contributions to the newsletter
- Survey the membership regularly to update the Strategic plan and determine if current methods of communication are appropriate.

## **Goal 2: Increase Member involvement with the Division, service to the Membership, and develop Division Leaders**

### **Strategies:**

- Use the division's discussion lists and other technology to develop programming and other activities in which Members can participate between Annual Conferences.
- Increase the number of standing and other committees to provide mechanisms for more Members to participate in Division planning
- Develop training and orientation materials to help Members participate in Division Activities, to help new Division Officers, and to help provide the Division with continuity from year to year.

## **Goal 3: Position Division Members to meet future information challenges**

### **Strategies:**

- Develop an active Mentorship program
- Develop connections and expand recruitment with library and information schools
- Continue support for the Marion E. Sparks Award for Professional Development

## **Goal 4: Develop vision of the profession**

### **Strategies:**

- Develop mechanisms to examine current and future issues related to chemical information, its providers and users
- Incorporate discussions of these topics into Annual Conference symposia and discussions, focus on them in newsletters and electronic discussions, including as topics for electronic mini-symposia and other forums
- Continue to partner with the American Chemical Society Chemical Information Division and the American Society for Information Science and Technology Special Interest Group on Scientific and Technical Information Systems to sponsor the Tri-Society Symposium
- Partner with appropriate associations and on appropriate initiatives, such as information literacy

\* *SLA Vision, Mission and Core Value Statements* adopted October 2003