**SLA Unit Restructuring Proposal**

 **SLA Leadership Training**

**June 15, 2019**

It is in the innovative spirit that has been a hallmark of SLA in the past that the following changes are currently being proposed for consideration by the board and membership at large. We hope to free our members from administrative tasks so that we can all concentrate on creating cutting-edge programs and on building opportunities to connect with like-minded colleagues about emerging trends and best practices. The goal is to streamline and “right size” SLA so that we can pivot to meet the developmental needs of a profession undergoing dramatic and unprecedented changes at an increasingly rapid pace.

1. ***New name for units.*** Replace SLA’s current unit naming convention with “Communities.”
2. ***New leadership structure*.** Revise the current executive and advisory board structure with the following three core roles: Convener, Program Planner and Membership Chair. Establish and fill additional roles on an as-needed basis, as determined by the Community.
3. ***New leadership duties.*** Redefine roles so that leaders can focus on program development and the creation of networking opportunities. Explore new models for community management and consider the transfer of administrative functions to SLA staff. These functions could include the management of community finances, the coordination of outreach and fundraising, and the maintenance of websites.
4. ***New unit requirements.*** No minimum number of members needed and no extra charge for membership in any Communities. Simply pay one fee for SLA membership and participate in as many communities as you’d like! This allows for more cross-pollination, inclusivity, and removes financial barriers to wider participation. Members would also get access to any programming anywhere for the same price, regardless of their unit affiliation(s).
5. ***New unit governance.*** Formal cabinet meetings would be replaced with less formal meetings, and cabinet positions on the board would be replaced with some form of Community Liaisons.

The proposed changes are designed to assist those units struggling with these issues and to make it easier for everyone to access and engage in SLA and its activities. It is not the intention to force a new structure onto units who find the current arrangement working for them, and a phased roll-out similar to that of the Unit Sponsorship and Partnership Agreements is envisioned. Finally, it should be noted that board is prepared to address any by-laws implications that result from these changes.

**We encourage everyone to join this effort, think creatively and try new ways of doing the work of SLA!**