



## **SLA Europe - Early Career Conference Awards 2010**

*Co-Sponsored by SLA Europe, Business & Finance Division, and Leadership & Management Division*

### **WINNERS ANNOUNCED**

**PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, 25 Feb. 10**

**The Board of SLA Europe is delighted to announce the two winners of the SLA Europe Early Career Conference Award (ECCA) 2010. The winners, who will attend the annual SLA Conference in New Orleans 13-16 June 2010, are Philip Gatzke and Christopher Rhodes.**

**Philip Gatzke** is currently a student at the University of Brighton, enrolled on the M.Sc. in Information Management, which he will finish in 2010. Philip joined the University of Brighton following a BA in Media and Information Studies at the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, in Germany.

**Christopher Rhodes** graduated from the University of Sheffield in 2007 with an M.A. Librarianship (distinction). During his time at Sheffield, Christopher was awarded prizes at both departmental and national level. Christopher currently works at the Statistics Resource Unit, House of Commons Library, and is the National Coordinator for New Professionals, Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals.

Two SLA divisions are co-sponsoring the awards: Philip Gatzke is supported by the Business & Finance Division, and Christopher Rhodes by the Leadership & Management Division.

The Award covers all expenses, including Conference registration, transportation, food, lodging and incidental expenses, as well as one-year membership in SLA. In return, the Award winners participate and assist in their co-sponsoring Division's events during the Conference and report on their experience in Division and SLA Europe newsletters.

**Announcing the winners, SLA Europe President Kate Arnold said: "We are in the fourth year of this Award and it has been encouraging to have a large, high quality pool of applicants to choose from. Our two winners impressed the panel with their energy and enthusiasm to deal with the challenges and opportunities that currently face our sector. We are delighted to be able to recognise and encourage such talent."**

The SLA Europe ECCA, now in its fourth year, is given to LIS professionals who have been working for less than five years or are enrolled in a European graduate-level programme in the LIS field. Applicants must have excellent English language skills and not have previously attended an SLA annual conference. The application process involves three steps: writing an essay; securing a recommendation from their line manager or a current faculty member in their programme; and providing an up-to-date résumé.

### ***About SLA***

*The Special Libraries Association is a non-profit global organisation for innovative information professionals and their strategic partners. Headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, USA, the SLA represents over 12000 information professionals in 83 countries, including corporate, academic and government information specialists. <http://www.sla.org>*

### ***About SLA Europe***

*SLA Europe provides information professionals in Europe with unique networking and learning opportunities through regular seminars, social events, and its website and blog. The group recognises outstanding achievement in the information profession with its annual SLA Europe Information Professional Award (SLA Europe IP). SLA Europe also engages with young information professionals through its Early Career Conference Awards (ECCA) and the SLA Europe Dissertation Prize programme. <http://www.sla-europe.org>*