



SLA Europe Information Professional Award

We are pleased to announce that an inspiring and innovative educator has won this year's **SLA Europe Information Professional Award** (SLA Europe IP 2010).

Dr Geoff Walton (BA (Hons), MA, PhD PgCHPE, FHEA, MCLIP) is currently Academic Skills Tutor Librarian and Research-informed Teaching Project Co-ordinator at Staffordshire University in Stoke-in-Trent, England. In this joint role he is involved in identifying synergies between research, teaching, learning, and information literacy. His recent PhD thesis focused on a blended approach to fostering information literacy among undergraduates.

Geoff is co-author of Teaching Information Literacy for Inquiry-Based Learning and co-editor of three books: Information Literacy: Infiltrating the Curriculum, Challenging Minds (forthcoming), Web 2.0 and Libraries: Impact, Technologies and Trends, and Teaching Information Literacy: Recognising the Need. He also contributed to the IFLA document for UNESCO Guidelines on information literacy for lifelong learning. Geoff recently spoke at the Librarians' Information Literacy Annual Conference 2010 (LILAC 2010) in Ireland.

SLA Europe President, Kate Arnold, says "It's great to have an academic winner, as SLA has a large membership in that sector. This quote from a testimonial we received in support of Geoff's nomination is a good summary of the qualities that so impressed us: "*...he's driven and passionate...an educator...iconoclast and innovator – he enjoys the challenge of the new...constantly pushing and searching, questioning and challenging and yet rooted in the discipline and rigour required by the profession.*"

The Award covers Geoff's expenses for attendance at the SLA Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, 13-16 June 2010, where Geoff will be a speaker at the International Session arranged by SLA Europe in conjunction with the Arabian Gulf, Australia and New Zealand, and Asian Chapters. A dinner will be hosted by the SLA Europe Board in honour of the Award winner on Monday night, after the formal presentation by Award sponsor **Dow Jones** at the International Reception.

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>

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