

Special Libraries Association Business And Finance Division Announced Center Of Excellence Award Winners

The business and finance division of the Special Libraries Association (SLA) announced the winners of its fifth annual Center of Excellence Awards.

Media Advisory

TORONTO/EWORLDWIRE/May 23, 2006 --- The presentation of these awards will occur on Monday, June 12, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. in the Hyatt Regency, Baltimore, MD. Immediately following the awards presentations, the winners will speak about their best practices for which they are being recognized.

The awards take their inspiration from the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Awards, which are given annually to U.S. organizations to recognize and promote quality as a critical part of innovation and competitiveness. The Center of Excellence Awards, like the Baldrige Award, recognizes customer driven quality and leadership within the framework of an organization dedicated to the gathering, analysis and dissemination of information within the business community.

The awards serve to recognize the best of the "best practices" in three categories: technology, service and management. Any member of SLA could apply for consideration in any of the three categories and all entries are evaluated by a panel of judges who are members of the business and finance division. The award winner represents excellence and quality at its highest level.

All previous winners and applicants are invited to attend this reception. An open discussion on the future of the Centers of Excellence Awards will take place following the presentations.

Center of Excellence Awards for Service presented to J. Hugh Jackson Library, Graduate School of Business, Stanford University.

The J. Hugh Jackson Library is administered and funded solely by the Stanford University Graduate School of Business (GSB) and is not part of the Stanford University Libraries (SUL) system. As an independent coordinate library, Jackson Library's services and most of its resources are available to the entire Stanford community. The library staff is composed of seven librarians and 21 library assistants. The library's primary customer base is the GSB community: 744 full-time M.B.A. students, 101 Ph.D. students, 54 Sloan students in a one-year executive Master's program, 153 faculty and lecturers, and 325 staff. Library staff provides services to an extensive executive education program of part-time students, the school's four major research centers, GSB alumni and the local business community.

According to the judges, the J. Hugh Jackson Library earned the Center of Excellence Award for Service because of its development of quality practices and services. In the judges' estimation, the Jackson Library successfully executed its strategic initiatives with a distinct breadth and depth. They were especially impressed with the library approaches to tracking goals directly to customers' needs, encouraging staff at all levels, as well as soliciting continuous feedback to evaluate its services and identify areas for change or improvement.

The judges who determined the winners were Susan Fifer Canby, Helen Katz, Cindy Lenox, Sylvia Piggott and James Olney, each of whom is an active member of the business and finance division of the SLA.

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CONTACT:

Gayle Gossen

Special Libraries Association Business and Finance

Los Angeles
+1 213-596-0850

Chicago
+1 312-224-4653

New York
+1 973-252-6800

London
44-20-7078-7269

*Communicate News**
+1 888-546-NEWS (6397)

EWORLDWIRE®

20 Bay St., Suite 1500
Toronto, OH M6J2T5
PHONE. 4165662069
EMAIL: gayle.gossen@gmail.com
<http://www.slabf.org>

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