



May 18, 2005

Dear FISD Members:

Since last Summer, the leadership of FISD has been meeting with the SIIA Board of Directors to ensure that our division gets the maximum support from the SIIA staff, and that financially, FISD has the funds available to it to pursue its robust agenda. The FISD representatives that have been participating in these discussions include Sara Banerjee (FISD Vice-Chair), Jack Sabo (FISD Executive Committee), Claire Pons (Chair, Operations Advisory Committee), as well as myself. The progress of these discussions has been vetted regularly with the FISD Operations Advisory Committee.

On May 2nd, after rounds of discussions and modifications to the business model, the SIIA Board unanimously approved the proposed Business Model Agreement.

The FISD leadership and the SIIA Board believe strongly that this arrangement will finally resolve the issues that have consumed much of the EC's time over the past year. FISD's EC leadership will have greater control over its own budget, FISD's financial interests will be better aligned with the rest of SIIA, and the FISD staff will gain the stronger support of the rest of the SIIA's employees in pursuing the FISD agenda.

In addition, Jack Sabo, a member of the FISD Executive Committee, has been appointed to a one-year seat on the SIIA Board of Directors. This move will further strengthen the relationship and communication between the groups, as well as ensure that FISD issues get prompt attention at the Board level.

This Agreement is wonderful news for the FISD membership! What seemed like an insurmountable task ended up resolved to everyone's satisfaction thanks to the dedication of everyone involved. A special thanks to Sara, Jack, Claire, members of the Operations Advisory Committee, Tom Davin and Ken Wasch, and members of the SIIA Board, who worked diligently to see through.

The final agreement is attached and goes into effect for the FY '06 fiscal year that begins on July 1, 2005.

Regards,

John A. Bottega
Chair
FISD Executive Committee