

May 20, 2021

Ana Serrano, President & Vice-Chancellor, OCAD U

cc: Caroline Langill, Vice President and Provost Academic, OCAD U

cc: Jamie Watt, Chair, OCAD University Board of Governors and

cc: Tony White, University Librarian

cc: Tim Ribaric, Secretary, Brock Library Council

President Serrano,

Brock University librarians together with colleagues from across the country call for the immediate reinstatement of terminated OCAD U professional librarians Daniel Payne, Marta Chudolinska, Victoria Sigurdson and Alex Homanchuk.

Reorganization in academic libraries is not a novel phenomenon. Many Ontario academic libraries seeking to remain relevant and sustainable have recently undergone, or are in the midst of, restructuring exercises. These exercises generally take a significant period of time, align recommendations with library and university strategic plans, involve substantial research, and substantive and thoughtful institutional consultations. It is clearly apparent that Tony White's actions earlier this month disregarded these established reorganization best practices.

As the public outcry against the termination of OCADU librarians demonstrates, librarians play essential roles in academic environments and beyond. Librarians are strong voices for implementing change, seeking opportunity, respecting different voices, and building community. The University Librarian and OCAD U Administration's actions ignored these realities and fall short of OCAD U's Mission Statement "...to build aware, generous and joyful communities that integrate multiple perspectives and critical practices."

OCAD University's disregard for a collegial process, lack of transparency, and callous actions necessitate that these four professional librarians be immediately reinstated, and that any subsequent restructuring follow established collegial governance processes.

Sincerely,



Ian Gordon, he/him

Science Liaison Librarian

Chair, Brock Library Council

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