

May 20, 2011

Dr. Patrick Deane
President and Vice-Chancellor
McMaster University
1280 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario
L8S 4L8

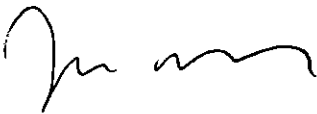
Dear Dr. Patrick Deane,

The Association of University of New Brunswick Teachers (AUNBT) is troubled by the actions and comments made by McMaster's University Librarian regarding the McMaster University Library. The downsizing of the librarian complement and his statement that new hires are "unlikely to be librarians" displays a lack of appreciation for the central role of academic librarians in universities unworthy of your esteemed institution.

As scholars and teachers, we know that the library is a crucial part of the academic community and that librarians are an essential part of libraries. We firmly believe that a critical component of the forgoing is the ALA accredited masters degree. Academic librarians are our best ally in supporting the research work of faculty and student learning. Without our librarian colleagues, universities will not be able to fulfill their essential functions.

For all of these reasons, the Executive Committee of AUNBT has unanimously passed a motion in support of the librarians at McMaster University. We are asking that you affirm your support and expressly value the work of academic librarians to ensure that McMaster University can continue to play an important role in the academic community of the country.

Yours very truly,



Dr. Julia Hughes
President, AUNBT

Xc Dr. Ilene Busch-Vishniac, Provost and Vice-President Academic, McMaster University
MUALA