



McMaster University Academic Librarians' Association

c/o MUFA (McMaster University Faculty Association)

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18th Nov. 2019

Dr. David Farrar

Acting President, McMaster University

Dr. Susan Searls Giroux,

Acting Provost and Vice President (Academic), McMaster University

Dr. Doug Welch

Vice-Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies, McMaster University

Mr. Sean Van Koughnett

Associate Vice-President and Dean of Students, McMaster University

Mr. Bradley Merkel

Chair, McMaster University Board of Governors

Dear Drs. Farrar, Searls Giroux, Welch, and Messrs. Van Koughnett and Merkel,

We, the members of the McMaster University Academic Librarians Association (MUALA), are writing to express our firm support for our CUPE 3906 (Unit 1) colleagues in their efforts to reach a fair agreement with you.

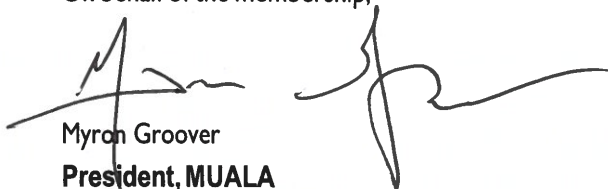
It is dispiriting and demoralising to the entire institution that at this late stage of bargaining there is still so much room between the employer's and union's positions on such basic and crucial issues as compensation, workload, and — perhaps most important of all — a firm commitment from McMaster to provide paid teaching and anti-oppression training to the people who mark so much of the undergraduate academic work on campus.

We should be working together to counter the false narratives of austerity and nihilism currently fashionable in Queen's Park, not fighting one another over the basic cornerstones of decent work, good teaching, and good grading at one of the province's leading universities.

MUALA has faith in the bargaining process, as do our counterparts in CUPE 3906. We strongly urge the University to do its part, in good faith, to articulate an equitable and just collective agreement with our Research and Teaching Assistants. We also have faith in the university's commitment to its own well-being and continued excellence; it is in this spirit that we write to you.

It is critical that you work to avert job action that will adversely affect our reputation, the wellbeing of our employees, and a student population that is already reeling from punitive provincial cuts.

On behalf of the membership,



Myron Groover
President, MUALA