

Ana Serrano  
President and Vice-Chancellor  
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May 19, 2021

Dear President Ana Serrano,

I am contacting you on behalf of the Carleton University Academic Staff Association (CUASA), the certified trade union representing over 950 professors, instructors, and librarians at Carleton University. We write to express our solidarity with the librarians that you terminated, and we call on you to immediately reverse your decision and to restore the librarians' jobs and involve them, as well as other librarians, faculty, students, and the broader community in any restructuring plans.

We find it unacceptable that six professional librarian positions were eliminated without due collegial process. Faculty, students, and librarians were not consulted. Librarians who gave decades of combined service to OCADU were terminated with barely weeks of notice. This is an attack not only on their livelihoods and their expertise, but also on the OCADU library system and hence its students and faculty and anyone else who uses and benefits from the library. This is also a stain on OCADU and its reputation, and we at CUASA will do everything in our power to make sure that this kind of attack is met with the disdain it deserves.

It is not too late to reverse course. We urge you to reinstate the terminated librarians and the two unfilled librarian positions and include them in meaningful discussions about how best to restructure the library if that is what you think must be done. We need not remind you of how important libraries and librarians are for post-secondary education, nor of the need to respect your own missions statements and collective agreements (such as the one with OPSEU Local 576, Unit 1). The rest of the sector is watching, and CUASA joins other faculty associations in condemning these terminations and unilateral restructuring. We stand in unwavering solidarity with our librarian colleagues at OCADU, along with the students and faculty and broader community that they support.

Sincerely,



Raj Singh, PhD  
External Relations Officer  
Carleton University Academic Staff Association

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