

Report from MAUT Librarians' Section 2020-21

A primary focus for the Librarians' Section (LS) Executive was to support members through the pandemic. This included supporting members the transition to remote working and then back-to-work initiatives such as the brief opening of the reference desk in the Library's Study Hubs, and guidance through the deferred merit process. A second focus was to increase the member's awareness and knowledge about the promotion process (reappointment and tenure) and provide more avenues for support within the Library for tenure-track librarians and their supervisors.

Additionally, the ongoing work of the MAUT-LS Executive included monthly meetings to discuss the concerns of our membership, quarterly meetings with the Dean of Libraries and involvement in MAUT and CAUT activities. Katherine Hanz was chair through August 2020 when she stepped down and Dawn McKinnon (incoming chair) became interim chair with Andrew Senior (Secretary-Treasurer). Past-chair was held by Jessica Lange, and by Jill Boruff (during the months that Jessica was on sabbatic leave).

Membership

We currently have 54 members which represents about 80% of eligible academic staff employed at the McGill Library. The Librarians' Section held a Fall General Meeting on November 25, 2020, and a Spring general meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2021. All meetings were held online. We were pleased to have incoming president, Andrew Kirk, attend the Fall meeting, as he was able to respond to questions related to the merit deferral and university budgets.

Professional and Scholarly Activity Guidelines

The previous Executive presented an initial draft of the guidelines at Library Council on February 18, 2020. Council members were originally given until March 31, 2020 to provide their feedback on the document but the deadline was extended due to the pandemic. This project was put on hold, pending more information.

Professional Issues Committee

This past year, the Professional Issues Committee of the Librarians' Section surveyed members, asking them which events/activities should be prioritized by the Committee. The top themes were activities around mentoring, guidance on reappointment/tenure and research. They have put in place some events that will take place in the coming months. The Executive would like to thank PIC for their work this year and welcome the incoming Committee members.

The MAUT-LS Executive would like to thank all librarian members for their participation in the association and look forward to continuing the work to ensure that the association and the Librarians' Section in particular, continues to represent you.

Respectfully submitted by Dawn McKinnon, MAUT Librarians' Section Interim Chair, April 21, 2020.