

**MAUT 2016 Spring General Meeting  
Librarians' Section Report  
Eamon Duffy, Chair  
April 2016**

The MAUT Librarians' Section works to develop a collective awareness of the librarian's contribution to the University, as well as to promote librarians' roles, rights, privileges and obligations. We currently have 50 members, which represents about 80% of eligible librarians employed at McGill.

This year's executive is made of myself as Chair, Jill Boruff as Chair-Elect, Tara Mawhinney as Past-Chair, and Jennifer Garland as Secretary-Treasurer. Members of the executive meet monthly to discuss new and ongoing issues. The most important issues we have worked on over the past year are:

- Merit and maternity leave – Women make up the vast majority of librarians at McGill, and issues of gender equity are of great importance to our members. This year we have brought attention to the fact that academic staff on maternity leave are not eligible for merit for the periods they are away. Rather, they receive only the across-the-board increase. There are no alternative means of raising their salaries aside from individual requests to the retention and anomaly envelope, and we argue that over time this situation contributes to the gender pay gap. We are pleased to hear that this issue will be an area of focus for the university administration in the upcoming year, and we look forward to collaborating with them on finding a resolution.
- Library Council – One of the priorities identified at the beginning of the year was to work with the Library administration to make Library Council – our equivalent of a faculty council – more lively and relevant. In cooperation with the Trenholme Dean of Libraries, we have succeeded in moving Council away from an information dissemination model and towards a forum for the discussion of issues important to librarians and librarianship.
- Full Librarian – There are currently no guidelines for promotion to the rank of Full Librarian, and we have had ongoing discussions with the Dean about this issue. She has indicated to us the difficulties involved with assembling a committee to compose such guidelines, but the indications we have received lately are promising and we hope for movement on this dossier soon.
- Support for research – In December, the MAUT-LS Professional Issues Committee (PIC) organized a successful workshop for librarians on research methods, taught by Professors Joan Bartlett and Ilja Frissen of the School of Information Studies.

Aside from the work within the LS, many of our members play important roles in MAUT. I would like to highlight their contributions and thank them for their efforts: Marc Richard sits as an elected Council member and is an MAUT advisor; Jane Aitkens, Genevieve Gore, and Andrea Miller-Nesbitt are members of the Communications Committee, Tara Mawhinney is a member of the Membership Committee; Cathy Martin is a member of the Tenure Mentoring Committee; and Jane Aitkens is a member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Freedom.

The Librarians' Section will hold its Spring General Meeting on April 27 from 12:00 to 14:00.