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**Office for Accreditation**

Karen O'Brien, Director  
Committee Staff Liaison

January 26, 2014

Caroline Haythornthwaite, Director and Professor  
School of Library, Archival and Information Studies  
University of British Columbia  
470-1961 East Mall  
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1  
Canada

Dear Dr. Haythornthwaite:

On behalf of the Committee on Accreditation (COA/the Committee) of the American Library Association (ALA), I write to inform you that the Committee voted to grant conditional accreditation status to the program leading to the degree of Master of Library and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia. The accreditation status of this program explicitly includes all sites offering courses that are part of the program.

The next review visit has been scheduled for fall 2016, followed by an accreditation decision to be made at the COA meeting January 21-23, 2017, at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. At that time the Committee will meet with representatives of the program and then will make one of the following accreditation decisions in accordance with Accreditation Process, Policies, and Procedures (AP3), 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, section I.7.8: release the program from conditional status and grant continued accreditation, or withdraw accreditation.

This decision was made at the COA meeting on January 26, 2014 and was based on the Program Presentation, the External Review Panel Report, all of the reports the program submitted to the Committee since the last comprehensive review, and the January 25, 2014, meeting with you.

The program is out of compliance with the following Standards:

- Standard I: Mission, Goals and Objectives; in particular, Standard I.2 "Program objectives are stated in terms of student learning outcomes to be achieved and reflect...."
- Standard II: Curriculum; in particular, Standard II.7 "...Evaluation of the curriculum includes assessment of students' achievements..."
- Standard IV: Students; in particular, Standard IV.6 "The school applies the results of evaluation of student achievement to program development. Procedures are established for systematic evaluation of the degree to which a program's academic and administrative policies and activities regarding students are accomplishing its objectives...."

In a plan for removal of conditional status, due October 1, 2014, please address the following matters of serious concern:

- The lack of evidence that the mission, goals and objectives are linked to competencies identified and the assessment activities named (Standard I.2);
- The absence of concrete evidence of student learning outcomes assessment with both indirect and direct measures (Standard II.7); and
- The absence of student learning outcomes assessment equally applicable to all students in the program (Standard IV.6).

The plan should include progress made since the comprehensive review visit and a detailed timeline for coming into compliance with the Standards (*ALA Accreditation Process, Policies, and Procedures (AP3)*, Section I.13). Please contact Karen O'Brien in the ALA Office for Accreditation for questions related to the development of the plan.

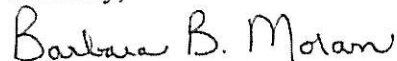
The Committee will review the plan in preparation for discussion with program representatives at the fall 2014 COA meeting, November 21-22, 2014. Please contact the ALA Office for Accreditation regarding which day of that meeting would work best.

For your information and planning, the schedule for reporting is as follows:

<b>Report</b>	<b>Due date</b>
Plan for removal of conditional status	October 1, 2014
Annual statistical report	December 1, 2014
Annual Conditional Status Progress Report	March 1, 2015

The Committee thanks all those who provided information and participated in the evaluation process. The cooperation of those associated with the program and with the University of British Columbia enabled us to facilitate the review of your program. We appreciate your cooperation in the ongoing evaluation, assessment, and review process of accreditation and we encourage you to continue your efforts.

Sincerely,



Barbara Moran, Chair  
Committee on Accreditation

cc: Stephen J. Toope, President and Vice-Chancellor, University of British Columbia  
David H. Farrar, Provost and Vice President Academic, University of British Columbia  
Gage Averill, Dean of Arts, Faculty of Arts, University of British Columbia  
Mary Grenier, Administrator, School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, University of British Columbia  
Karen O'Brien, Director, Office for Accreditation

enc: Certificate of accreditation