

Inforum collection

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Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 11:05 AM

To: Wendy Duff

Cc: Elisa Sze; Nalini Singh; Kathleen Scheaffer

Dear Dean Duff,

I'm writing to express my concern over the possible dismantling of the Inforum collection. I hope this email reaches you in time.

I'm an iSchool graduate (2012), a former Inforum staff member, and a current liaison librarian to the School of Information Management at Dalhousie University. The collection at the Inforum is not only an enviable but a vital resource to librarians and information professionals in training across the country.

When selecting books to add to the collection in my subject area, I routinely consult the Inforum's recent purchases because I have seen first-hand how meticulously selection is handled there and how comprehensively monographs in the information fields are collected. As a student assistant, I was involved in collection development projects supervised by Elisa, the Collections librarian; now, knowing the exemplary level of effort that goes into selecting materials for the most comprehensive collection of its kind in Canada, I have been able to use this list as a go-to resource for new material being published in the information field. I trust this list more than I trust my approval slips.

In 2015 I wrote a letter in response to the proposal to dismantle the Inforum, and I'll repeat what I said in that letter: the idea of the "library school" losing its library is more than a little ironic and depressing. And the idea of moving an incredible collection that alumni, researchers, librarians, and other information professionals from all over travel to access, behind Robarts' closed stacks, directly counters many of the core values found in our literature.

Thank you for your time,

Lindsay McNiff

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Dalhousie sits on the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq. We are all treaty people.