4/19/2018 Inforum decision

Inforum decision

Paul Downes [paul.downes@utoronto.ca]

Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 11:08 AM

To: Wendy Duff

Cc: ari.langford@utoronto.ca; Elisa Sze; Nalini Singh; Kathleen Scheaffer

Dear Dean Duff.

In the past few days, I have been alerted to your decision to transfer the print collections in the Inforum to Robarts Library (or Downsview). I understand that this significant decision was made at a time when multiple Inforum librarians were on research leave and therefore unable to provide expert input? This seems like a very unprofessional way to treat colleagues and professional librarians who work at one of the top research libraries in the world.

It appears that your decision was made without engaging the stakeholders beyond a very small subset of the communities that rely upon the Inforum for their research, education and professional responsibilities. There does not appear to have been any serious consultative process involved. Is that correct? Was the decision approved by Faculty Council? I believe that this process requires more transparency, wider consultation and a clear account of why the Faculty of Information might want to dismantle a collection so important to understanding and supporting our information society and the professionals who work within it. I encourage you to suspend this process until a more transparent and collegial process has been adopted. Sincerely,

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