

OCAD University Receives OCULA New Librarian Residency Award

NEWS RELEASE

TORONTO, ON (November 13, 2015): The Ontario College and University Library Association (OCULA), a division of the Ontario Library Association, has selected OCAD University as the host institution for the 2015 New Librarian Residency Award.

OCAD University has used funding from the program to hire Chris Landry as a Scholarly Communications Librarian/Digital Projects Curator.

“Having this job means being able to work on developing a scholarly communications program at an institution [with a 140-year history, but relatively new university status],” says Landry. “That means being able to contribute at the [early] stages of this work, while also developing and building what I have learned to date.”

The Residency Program Committee was impressed by how current the position was to today's academic library environment. Landry will be involved with both scholarly communication and digital projects curation. The proposal was also particularly strong in the mentoring component of the role, as Landry will have a six-person mentoring team.

The New Librarian Residency Program provides an academic (college/university) library with funding toward a new contract position. It was launched in March 2009 with the goal of enhancing recruitment of new librarians in an academic or research environment. Over the course of the program, dozens of recent graduates have applied to residency positions, which included: Student Success Librarian, Social Media Librarian and a User Experience Librarian.

“Colleges and University libraries do so many things,” remarks Landry. “They are centres where students do their work and develop as learners, they are an extended classroom where learning takes place either as teachable moments at the reference desk or through workshops, and they are unique collections unto themselves through archives and repositories. They also support research and teaching. The library is a crucial part in supporting the academic enterprise as a whole.”

Through this program, college and university library administrators can apply for funding toward the salary of a new librarian for a minimum of 10 months to a maximum of 12 months. This residency program is the first in Canada to be funded by a library association.

OCULA welcomes financial contributions to the program on a continuing basis. Email sponsorship@accessola.com for more information.

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About OCAD University: OCAD University (www.ocadu.ca) is Canada's university of the imagination. The university, founded in 1876, is dedicated to art, design and digital media education, practice and research, and to knowledge and invention across a wide range of disciplines.



∴ ontario library association



∴ ontario college and university library association

About the Ontario Library Association: The Ontario Library Association (OLA) is a centre of excellence for the library and information sector, with nearly 5,000 members who work in public, school, academic and special libraries. OLA enables members to advocate for the right of individuals to have free and equitable access to information. Our members research, develop and participate in educational programs designed to provide exemplary library services. Signature OLA events include the annual Super Conference and the Forest of Reading® program.

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