October 1, 2015

American Library Association
Office for Accreditation
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611-2795
USA

Dear Professor Howland,

I am pleased to submit the attached special report in response to a request from the Committee on Accreditation for clarification on statistics reported by the School of Information Studies at the University of Ottawa in December 2014, in relation to statistics reported the previous year.

The attached special report responds specifically to the two items requiring clarification referred to in the Committee on Accreditation’s letter of April 24, 2015: the number of degrees awarded for the 2013-2014 academic year as compared with the number awarded the previous year; and the total income for 2013-2014 as compared with the total for the previous year.

If the Committee requires any further clarification on the matters addressed in the attached report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Sylvie Grosjean,
Acting Chair & Associate Professor
School of Information Studies

enc: Special Report

cc: Ginette Malette, Administrative Officer, School of Information Studies, University of Ottawa
Lynne Bowker, Acting Vice-Dean, FGPS, University of Ottawa
Kevin Kee, Dean, Faculty of Arts, University of Ottawa
Karen O’Brien, Director, ALA Office for Accreditation
Special Report

Submitted to the American Library Association Committee on Accreditation
by the School of Information Studies, University of Ottawa

October 1, 2015

The School of Information Studies, University of Ottawa submitted its most recent annual statistical report on December 1, 2014. Following its review of that report, the Committee on Accreditation (COA) requested clarification on two items in the report as they relate to the previous year’s report:

- In 2013, the program reported 152 degrees awarded. In 2014, the program reported 22 degrees awarded. Please explain the significant change in degrees awarded.

- In 2013, the program reported total income of $14,080,020. In 2014, the program reported $996,970 in total income. Please explain the change in income.

In fact, neither of the figures for 2013 cited in the COA letter corresponds to what was actually reported by the School that year. The number of degrees awarded for the academic year 2012-2013 was reported as 22. The total income for the period May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013 was reported as $620,659. It is not clear to us where the 2013 figures cited by the COA came from, but they are not the figures that were reported by the School.

A comparison of the number of degrees awarded for the 2013-2014 academic year with the number awarded for 2012-2013, as reported in 2014 and 2013 respectively, indicates that the numbers were the same (i.e. 22 in each year). There was, in fact, no change at all.

A comparison of the total income reported for the period May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014 with the total income reported for the corresponding period the previous year indicates an increase of approximately $375,000. The increase was attributable almost entirely to additional salary costs resulting from an increase in the number of full-time faculty and payment of a retroactive salary increase.