

15 March 2013

Dr. Patrick Deane ([president@mcmaster.ca](mailto:president@mcmaster.ca))  
President and Vice Chancellor  
Gilmour Hall, Room 238  
McMaster University  
1280 Main St. W.  
Hamilton, ON L8S 4L8

Dear Patrick,

In the past, I wrote on behalf of the Queen's University Faculty Association regarding our strong support for Dale Askey, an Associate University Librarian at McMaster. As you know he is under attack for expressing his professional view on the quality of some publications. He is being sued by Mellen Press, as was your University, for these actions.

Lawsuits threatening the ability of members of the academic community to speak objectively regarding any aspect of their work must be fought aggressively by our institutions. We strongly support the decision of McMaster University to defend Mr. Askey's rights and in doing so defend the rights of all academics to pursue their work.

I understand that the suit involving McMaster University has been dropped and that is a positive development, however Mr. Askey is still the subject of a personal suit from Mellon Press. I urge you to take a public stance and provide legal support to Mr. Askey, your employee, in defence of this suit. It is essential if university librarians and other scholars are to be free to pursue their work.

Yours truly,



Paul Young,  
President, QUFA

