The Windsor University Faculty Association supports CLA position on Mellen Press suit against McMaster librarian

The Windsor University Faculty Association is writing in support of Dale Askey and McMaster University and strongly urges Edwin Mellen Press to drop the lawsuits against both¹.

Jim Turk, Executive Director of the Canadian Association of University Teachers, has stated about librarians and academic freedom:

Librarians have a duty to promote and preserve intellectual freedom in society. They have a responsibility to protect academic freedom and are entitled to the full protection of their own academic freedom in accordance with CAUT policies. This freedom includes, but is not limited to, the right and duty to exercise their academic professional judgment in the selection of library materials, and to ensure that library materials are freely accessible to all, no matter how controversial those materials may be².

WUFA strongly supports these principles and believes that librarians should be able to exercise their professional judgement without fear of reprisals. Therefore, WUFA urges Edwin Mellen Press to drop their lawsuits against Dale Askey and McMaster University.

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¹ Book publisher sues McMaster librarian, university for libel http://www.cbc.ca/hamilton/news/story/2013/02/12/hamilton-librarian-lawsuit.html

² Academic Freedom for Librarians: What is it, and why does it matter? http://www.library.mcgill.ca/mautlib/2010.08.25_McGill_Librarians.pdf