

# ALA American Library Association

January 17, 2000

Blaise Cronin, Dean  
School of Library and Information Science  
Indiana University  
10<sup>th</sup> Street and Jordan Avenue  
Bloomington, IN 47405-1801

Dear Dean Cronin:

On behalf of the Committee on Accreditation (COA) of the American Library Association, I am pleased to report that the Committee voted:

- to approve continuation of accreditation of the program leading to the degree Master of Library Science, and
- to grant initial accreditation of the program leading to the degree Master of Information Science at Indiana University.

The next comprehensive review of both programs is scheduled in five years (Fall, 2004), unless evidence in interim reports persuades COA that the review should be conducted at an earlier or later date.

The decisions were made at COA's meeting on January 17, 2000, and were based on the School's Program Presentation; the External Review Panel report; biennial and statistical reports since your last comprehensive review; and the Committee's meeting on January 16, 2000, with you and Edward O'Neill, chair of the External Review Panel. The accreditation of these programs explicitly includes all sites offering courses that are part of the programs listed above. The Master of Library Science program was initially accredited in 1953; the Master of Information Science program is hereby initially accredited in 2000.

The Program Presentation demonstrates many strengths of the program, including faculty research productivity and development of the curriculum leading to the new degree. The development of the new degree program offers solid evidence of careful planning, especially with regard to the curriculum. Neither the Program Presentation nor the ERP report, however, provide substantive content and tangible evidence of a broad-based participatory planning process, including active involvement of your several constituencies, and use of outcomes. Therefore, the Committee asks you to address the following serious issues in your next biennial report, due on October 15, 2001.

## Committee on Accreditation

Reverly P. Lynch, Chair  
University of California Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, California

Hiram J. Davis  
California Polytechnic State University  
San Luis Obispo, California

Rick B. Forsman  
University of Colorado  
Health Sciences Center  
Denver, Colorado

Martha L. Hale  
Emporia State University  
Emporia, Kansas

Susan Estabrook Kennedy  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Richmond, Virginia

Steve Matthews  
Forsyth School  
Middleburg, Virginia

Vivienne Monty  
York University  
Toronto, Ontario

C. Allen Nichols  
Wadsworth Public Library  
Wadsworth, Ohio

Lorna Peterson  
State University of New York  
University at Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York

Jane B. Robbins  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, Florida

Caroline Stern  
Ferris State University  
Big Rapids, Michigan

Charles F. Townley  
New Mexico State University  
Las Cruces, New Mexico

## Office for Accreditation

Ann L. O'Neill, Director  
Committee Staff Liaison

The "broad-based planning that involves the program's various constituencies" (*Standards for Accreditation of Master's Programs in Library and Information Studies*, 1992, p. 9) informs each of the standards as well as the standards as a whole. The Committee asks that you demonstrate the initiative and inductive as well as the reactive involvement of faculty and other constituencies in the entire planning process, as you have already made evident in curricular development planning for the new MIS degree. For example, constituents, especially faculty, should be involved in integration of the School's programs and faculty with the new School of Informatics, examination of policies and strategies related to faculty and student diversity, and efforts to resolve issues related to the Indianapolis campus.

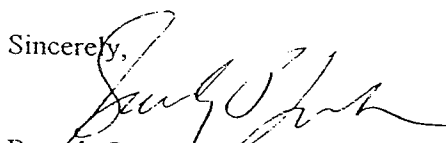
The *Standards* also address the profession's fundamental commitment to "the needs of a rapidly changing multi-cultural, multiethnic, multilingual society including the needs of underserved groups (p. 11)." These are matters that you characterized as "socially important" in your meeting with COA. In view of the presence of a significant minority population in the region as well as new university initiatives, the School of Library and Information Science has another excellent opportunity to demonstrate leadership and provide a national example. COA asks that you report on plans, initiatives, successes, and assessments of your efforts in this very important arena.

"The requirements of [the] *Standards* apply regardless of forms or locations of delivery of a program (p. 3)." Yet there are acknowledged differences between program delivery in Bloomington and in Indianapolis. Recognizing that there are, as you said, "political realities," COA encourages you to continue to pursue a critical mass of faculty and resources to ensure equity for students enrolled through the Indianapolis site. Additionally, the Committee asks that you report on progress achieved by the time of the next required report.

The Committee thanks all those who provided information and participated in the evaluation process. The cooperation of those associated with the program and with Indiana University enabled us to facilitate the review of your program. We appreciate your cooperation in the on-going evaluation, assessment, and review process of accreditation, and we encourage you to continue your efforts.

A copy of this letter has been sent to President Brand for his information.

Sincerely,



Beyerly P. Lynch, Chair  
Committee on Accreditation

cc: Myles Brand, President, Indiana University  
Ann L. O'Neill, Director, Office for Accreditation

# ALA American Library Association

June 26, 2001

**Committee on Accreditation**

Rick B. Forsman, Chair  
University of Colorado  
Health Sciences Center  
Denver, Colorado

Jennifer Cargill  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Susan Estabrook Kennedy  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Richmond, Virginia

Beverly P. Lynch  
University of California Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, California

Steve Matthews  
Foxcroft School  
Middleburg, Virginia

Bertrum H. MacDonald  
Dalhousie University  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Sharon M. McPherron  
Craft Alliance Center  
St. Louis, Missouri

C. Allen Nichols  
Wadsworth Public Library  
Wadsworth, Ohio

Lorna Peterson  
State University of New York  
University at Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York

Jane B. Robbins  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, Florida

Charles T. Townley  
New Mexico State University  
Las Cruces, New Mexico

Philip M. Turner  
University of North Texas  
Denton, Texas

**Office for Accreditation**

Ann L. O'Neill, Director  
Committee Staff Liaison

Blaise Cronin, Dean/Professor of Information Science  
School of Library and Information Science  
Indiana University  
Main Library 012  
1320 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bloomington, IN 47405-3907

Dear Dr. Cronin:

I am pleased to report that at its regular meeting during the ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco, California, the Committee on Accreditation voted to move the comprehensive review for the School of Library and Information Science. As a result, the next comprehensive on-site review will be in the Spring of 2005. All accreditation deadlines will be changed to coincide with the new review date.

The Committee thanks you for your cooperation and willingness to postpone your comprehensive review.

Sincerely,



Rick Forsman  
Chair, Committee on Accreditation

cc: Ann L. O'Neill, Director, Office for Accreditation