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Committee on Accreditation

January 25, 2020

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Office for Accreditation

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Committee Staff Liaison

Catherine Brooks
Director and Associate Professor
School of Information, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
University of Arizona
PO Box 210076, Harvill Building
Tucson, AZ 85721

Dear Dr. Brooks:

On behalf of the Committee on Accreditation (CoA/the Committee) of the American Library Association (ALA), I write to inform you that the Committee voted to grant Continued accreditation status to the program leading to the degree of Master of Arts in Library and Information Science at the University of Arizona. The next comprehensive review visit is scheduled for fall 2026 unless evidence or circumstances in the interim necessitate other action by CoA.

The decision was made at the Committee meeting on January 25, 2020, based on the Self-Study, the External Review Panel Report, all the reports the program submitted to the Committee since the last comprehensive review, and the January 25, 2020, meeting with you, Bryan Heidorn, and Iris Lee, Chair of the ALA External Review Panel.

Important issues raised in the review need to be addressed in order to retain Continued accreditation status. In a Special Report due by March 1, 2021, provide:

- Explicit documented evidence of ongoing decision-making processes in the evaluation of faculty (Standard III.9, ERP Report p. 22)
- Examples of how the results of faculty evaluations are systematically used to improve the program and to plan for the future (Standard III.10, ERP Report p. 22)
- Updates on physical facilities (Standard V.10, EPR Report p. 22)

Full and candid reporting is essential for the program to fully benefit from the investment in accreditation. It is important to be aware of the exceptions on disclosure for accreditation in the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), § 99.31(a), Section 99.35(b)(1), as noted in *ALA-CoA Accreditation Process, Policies, and Procedures*, section II.7.3. Evidence tied to identity can be provided on site only and data essential to the accreditation process can be aggregated and anonymized.

For your information and planning, the schedule for reporting is as follows:

| Report | Due date |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Annual statistical Report | February 15, 2020 |
| Special Report | March 1, 2021 |
| Biennial Narrative Report | February 15, 2022 |

The Committee is grateful to everyone who provided information and participated in the evaluation process. We appreciate cooperation in the ongoing evaluation, assessment, and process of accreditation and encourage the program to continue its efforts.

Sincerely,



Kathleen De Long
ALA Committee on Accreditation

cc: Iris M. Lee, Chair, External Review Panel, American Library Association
Robert C. Robbins, President, University of Arizona
Liesl Folks, Provost, University of Arizona
John Paul Jones, III, Dean, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Arizona
Cheryl Knott, Associate Professor, School of Information, University of Arizona
Bryan Heidorn, Director of Research and Associate Director, University of Arizona
Barb Vandervelde, Manager of Administration, School of Information, University of Arizona
Karen O'Brien, Director, Office for Accreditation

en: Certificate of accreditation