OCULA Councillor At Large - 1 Year Term
Four Candidates (Jessica Hymers, Mariana Jardim, Tina Liu, Arvind Mehta)

Candidate 1:

Jessica Hymers

Hello, I'm Jessica, seeking to serve as OCULA Councillor at Large for a one-year term. I am still in the early stages of my library career, and OLA has been a constant pillar of support. OLA's impact on community building and its value-driven influence on the profession have shaped my journey from my undergraduate shelf-reading days, to beginning to understand the vast complexities and societal impacts of libraries.

As the current Student Lightning Strikes Winner and thus student member of the OCULA council for the past year, I've chaired the student engagement subcommittee, working to reduce barriers and foster student participation. If elected Councillor at Large my goals include:
- Continuing to grow student and general member engagement
- Ensuring a this is done thoughtfully and with a keen focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Providing supports to help members of the academic library community to work according to these values

In the wake of the pandemic, OCULA and OLA are in a rebuilding phase. I aim to support OCULA in leveraging this period as a chance to facilitate growth that is both sustainable and equitable. I am both excited and hopeful about OCULA's role in guiding this rebuilding process, ensuring that OLA remains a robust support system for all library professionals in Ontario.

Candidate 2:

Mariana Jardim

My name is Mariana Jardim and I am running for an OCULA Councillor at Large position. I have worked at the University of Toronto since 2005, in teaching and learning, educational technology and librarianship. My current role is Liaison Librarian, Management/Economics, and Arts & Science Co-op, with additional responsibilities in Entrepreneurship. My educational background is in the social sciences and humanities, and I hold a Master of Information and a Master of Arts.

OCULA's 2023 Spring Conference inspired me to apply to this role so that I can join others in making a positive impact to our library community. I am particularly interested in contributing to the broader OLA goal of "Growing Career Paths & Potential," developing educational resources and programming with a particular focus on equity, diversity and inclusion, and anti-racist practices. Lastly, I want to unlearn and relearn together with my colleagues, and to develop new skills and perspectives.

Candidate 3:

Tina Liu

My name is Tina Liu, I am a Cataloguing Librarian at McGill University, and I am hoping to serve as an OCULA Councillor at Large for a one year term. I am a Cataloguing Librarian at McGill University, and I am hoping to serve as an OCULA Councillor at Large for a one year term. I have worked in academic libraries since 2020, and I am passionate about understanding and ameliorating systemic injustices within library institutions and organizations.

Being early career, I bring new perspectives towards developing shared resources and collaboration with colleagues coming from a variety of institutions. This position is an opportunity for me to share my experiences, skills, and perspectives with academic librarians, which I will use to support both OLA and OCULA's missions and values in the following ways:

- Advocating for effective equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility practices in academic libraries
- Building connections between people and ideas to strengthen OCULA's platform as a resource for promoting education and awareness of critical issues and events
- Responsibly promoting advancements in library technologies, and staying up to date with new trends and developments

I look forward to supporting OCULA's mission and strategic goals through outreach by engaging with a community of likeminded library workers committed to innovation and progress within university and college libraries.

Candidate 4:

Arvind Mehta

My name is Arvind Mehta. I am hoping to serve the library community as the OCULA Councillor-at-Large. I am a graduate from library schools with multi-disciplinary experience including libraries. I am passionate about bringing positive change in professional practice by learning and meeting the changing

needs of the academic library community. It is a great opportunity for me to utilize my unique scientific background to connect, collaborate and network with the academic library community to add value to and develop innovative OLA programs and services while supporting OLA mission and strategic goals.