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OCULA Councillor At Large - 3 Year Term
Three Candidates (Usman Malik, Arvind Mehta, Michael Reansbury)

Candidate 1:

Usman Malik

My name is Usman Malik and I am running for the OCULA Councillor at Large position, 3-year term. I recently completed my first year working as an academic Liaison Librarian and I am excited to bring my insights and experiences to OCULA.

Teaching and learning is at the core of my practice, and I am passionate about investigating and implementing innovative ways of thinking around instructional design to best meet the information needs of a changing, increasingly diverse user group. I will champion the exploration and adoption of new pedagogy frameworks and methods in additional to cutting-edge educational technology.

As an early-career librarian from a racialized background, I am familiar with the barriers present to both users and professionals. I am committed to help create and support policies, frameworks, and resources towards more equitable, diverse, and inclusive academic libraries.

Lastly, I recognize the importance of professional development for academic library workers. I will help foster an environment where members feel supported, encouraged, and comfortable in meeting their professional development goals.

Given the opportunity, I am eager to participate in discussions and engage with OCULA members to extend and improve library services at Ontario colleges and universities.

Candidate 2:

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.

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Candidate 3:

<u>Michael Reansbury</u>

I, Michael Reansbury, am seeking the position of OCULA councillor for a 3-year term. In April 2023, I transitioned to a role at a publicly funded college, marking a shift from my 13-year tenure at a privately funded post-secondary institution. Throughout my entire professional journey, I have been dedicated to the post-secondary education sector.

As an OCULA councillor, my primary goal will be to advocate for library staff, particularly those involved in access and technical services. I firmly believe that the work carried out in these areas directly contributes to the educational mission of our institutions. My focus will be on cultivating a community of learning for library staff, fostering the development of skills essential not only for current workflows but also to equip library staff for the evolving demands of the future in libraries and post-secondary education.

I am committed to being a proactive voice for library staff, ensuring their perspectives are considered as we continue to provide library services to Ontario's colleges and universities, in support of post-secondary education. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the advancement of these shared goals, in this role.