

Submitted by Senator Beauchemin:

Why are there no elected Librarian/Archivist Senators? Many decisions made by Senate have an effect on the working conditions of Librarians and Archivists. Yet, they have no voice of their own on Senate. (The University Librarian is an administrator.)

**Response:** The Senate Governance and Nominating Committee has been reviewing the composition of the Senate over the past two years. The Committee is currently in the latter stages of preparing a report to the Senate regarding proposed recommendations for the overall composition of the Senate, which will be the subject of consultation.

While the Committee desires to create broad opportunities for members of the Queen's community to be elected to the Senate, it is incumbent upon the Committee to note that the Central Function of the Senate as most recently approved in April 2011 is:

Under the jurisdiction of the Royal Charter of 1841, Senate determines all matters of an academic character that affect the University as a whole, and is concerned with all matters that affect the general welfare of the University and its constituents. Senate shall serve as a forum for discussion and exchange of ideas among the members of the University community.

As a governance body, the Senate does not make decisions regarding the working conditions of the employees of Queen's University, but instead, has been charged with the consideration of matters of an academic character that affect the University as a whole. For these reasons, the addition of an elected librarian to the Senate would not be supported based on the rationale articulated in the question. That having been said, there may be other relevant considerations which bear on the matter.

The Senate Governance and Nominating Committee will consider whether there are grounds that support the addition of an elected librarian to the composition of the Senate which are consistent with the Purposes and Functions of the Senate. The Committee will provide an analysis of this issue to the Senate in the Committee's April report.