

Italian Art Society

DEDICATED TO THE STUDY OF ITALIAN ART FROM ANTIQUITY TO THE PRESENT

February 13, 2010

Dr. Peter George
President & Vice-Chancellor
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To the President of McMaster University,

We, colleagues of Hayden Maginnis in the study of Italian art, deplore the proposed closure of the art history program at McMaster University and wish to express our support of the Art History faculty there.

The shocking news that McMaster University intends to close the art history program was presented to the membership of the Italian Art Society membership at our annual meeting. Most, if not all of us, have had the honor and pleasure to work with Dr. Maginnis, both in his myriad roles for this organization, and as one of the most esteemed scholars of Italian Renaissance art working in North America. It is, therefore, inconceivable to us that any institution fortunate enough to have Dr. Maginnis teaching art history there would contemplate ending the program in art history. We might further add that many of us have had the good fortune to work with students trained by Dr. Maginnis at McMaster University. They were, without exception, well-trained and highly successful students of art history.

It is, therefore, with considerable dismay that we write to you in one voice, stating our firm conviction that the closure of the first-rate art history program will be a loss to the field as well as to your university.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Jeryldene Wood, President
The Italian Art Society
College Art Association Meeting
Chicago, Illinois

cc Dr. Patrick Dean (vpacad@queensu.ca)

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