

Assistant Professor of Library Services: Research Librarian

Position Announcement

To best serve our students, faculty, and staff at Valparaiso University, Christopher Center Library Services seeks an innovative and dedicated Research Librarian whose initiative, leadership, and management will continue our long-standing engagement with Valpo's First Year Experience programs in this now formally established position. With a primary focus on our first-year students' support and engagement, this librarian will further our established program by demonstrating an awareness of emerging trends in student learning, an understanding of key campus collaborations in writing and information literacy programming, and by exploring new initiatives in student learning support.

In this tenure-track position, the Research Librarian will benefit from immediate opportunities in scholarly and professional development, faculty governance of the library, library policy creation, and service on library and campus committees and task forces. Candidates should be interested in working at a university engaged in issues in Christian higher education in the Lutheran tradition. She or he should also demonstrate a commitment to cultural diversity and the ability to work with individuals or groups from diverse backgrounds.

As one of four librarians within the Research Services Department, this position's primary position focus is that of "First Year Student Experience" including but not limited to:

- First Year Experience initiatives and programming support (within Valpo Core and within Christ College),
- Valpo Writing Program collaboration, and
- digital learning materials creation and support.

In concert, the Research Services Librarians provide:

- information literacy programming
- outreach to and support for specific student and campus constituencies,
- programming activities, and
- support for Circulation Services.

In varying degrees, all Christopher Center Librarians provide:

- Research and consultation appointments to support students and faculty.
- Campus-wide scholarly communication program, initiatives, and educational support.
- Library instruction for our first-year experience classes (within Valpo Core and Christ College).
- Subject liaison work which will include
 - embedded librarianship for course support in collaboration with the departmental faculty (i.e., instruction, support material creation, virtual office hours, etc.),
 - faculty education and outreach in library-related initiatives and services, and
 - subject collection and resource development.
- Ongoing evaluation of their individual and shared responsibilities.

Required Qualifications

A candidate will provide evidence of:

- an ALA-accredited master's degree by the time of appointment;
- familiarity with emerging trends in First Year Experience programming, student learning; information literacy theory, practice;
- demonstrated project management experience;
- the ability to meet departmental standards for performance, scholarship, service, professional development and collegiality;
- evidence of strong written, verbal, and interpersonal communication skills; and
- a commitment to student success, excellent customer service, and excellence in teaching.

Preferred Qualifications

Additional qualifications are valued, including but not limited to:

- subject background/interest within the social science disciplines and government information resources;
- experience with changing public service models in an academic library;
- experience with current and emerging technologies;
- a proactive attitude in work with library colleagues and patrons; and
- the capability to work both independently and collaboratively in the team environment.

Status, Salary, and Benefits

This is a full-time, tenure-track appointment at the Assistant Professor level with a 12 month contract. The position accords all of the rights and responsibilities held by Valparaiso University faculty members. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The position offers immediate eligibility for the full benefits package (TIAA/CREF retirement; life insurance; medical, dental, and vision care benefits). You'll also receive 22 vacation days in addition to University holidays and other fringe benefits and special discounts.

Application Timeline and Procedures

With an expected start date of September 1, 2014, full review of applications will begin immediately. Those received before June 9, 2014, will receive full consideration. Review will continue until the suitable candidate is hired.

All application materials must be submitted electronically. A cover letter detailing your interest in and qualifications for the position, resume, and contact information for three professional references should be sent as attachments to: Detra.Becker@valpo.edu. Send position-related inquiries only (not application materials) to Kim Whalen, Assistant Professor of Library Services and Chair of Search Committee: Kimberly.Whalen@valpo.edu.

Valparaiso University, a community of learning dedicated to excellence and grounded in the Lutheran tradition of scholarship, freedom, and faith, prepares students to lead and serve in both church and society. Located one hour southeast of Chicago on a 310-acre campus, Valpo is a comprehensive undergraduate and graduate university with enrollment of about 4,000 students in its Colleges of Arts & Sciences, Business Administration, Nursing & Health Professions, Engineering, Christ College (Honors College), the Graduate School, and the School of Law. The award-winning Christopher Center for Library and Information Services provides active learning environments in which students, faculty, and staff use innovative tools and resources to create and access information intelligently, efficiently, and with integrity.

Valparaiso University does not unlawfully discriminate and aims to employ persons of various backgrounds and experiences to help constitute a diverse community. Its entire EOE policy can be found at <http://www.valpo.edu/equalopportunity/index.php>. Employment at Valparaiso University will require a satisfactory criminal background check.