Lecturer in Library Services: Library Fellow at Valparaiso University

Christopher Center Library Services, and Valparaiso University, are committed to fostering a diverse student body and faculty. We are pleased to announce a new Library Fellow position with an archival focus. This two year [July 2014 – June 2016] faculty position provides the opportunity for an entry-level librarian, with a demonstrated commitment to diverse and historically underrepresented groups, to gain professional experience as an academic librarian.

As a member of the University faculty, the Library Fellow should be interested in working at a university engaged in issues in Christian higher education in the Lutheran tradition. She or he will also demonstrate a commitment to cultural diversity and the ability to work with individuals or groups from diverse backgrounds. The Library Fellow 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. Current library faculty are engaged in a wide range of professional and campus-related activities, from embedded librarianship to scholarly communication initiatives, from writing-across-the-curriculum programming to changing service models, and welcome a new colleague’s interests and insights.

This position requires a two year commitment. The librarian will gain meaningful work experience within the library’s Special Collections Department, encompassing archival reference, digital preservation and reformatting projects, marketing, instruction, student assistant supervision, and collaboration with various departments and services on campus. In consultation with the Special Collections Librarian, and other librarians as appropriate, the Library Fellow will develop an original project, one which can be conducted during the fellowship, and culminating in a presentation or peer-reviewed publication. Also across the two year period, the Library Fellow will have the opportunity to partner with a librarian as a subject liaison to an academic program. Liaison work includes providing specialized student information literacy instruction and consultation, collaborating with disciplinary faculty, and working with collections and information resources in specific subject areas.

Required Qualifications
For consideration, a candidate must identify her/himself within the context of diversity as defined in Valparaiso University’s “Statement of Philosophy on Diversity.”

A candidate will provide evidence of

- An ALA-accredited Master’s Degree, or equivalent, by the time of appointment
- A demonstrable commitment to diversity
- Strong communication skills
- **One or both of the following:**
  - Demonstrable familiarity with archival theory, practice and applications related to digital repositories, archives and special collections
  - Demonstrable familiarity and/or experience in cataloging and metadata creation for archival material (using accepted formats and standards) or for Reformation-era German and Latin texts (cataloging proficiency with either / both languages)
- A candidate must also be authorized to work in the United States for the full duration of the program
- This position will require lifting up to 40 pounds and the manipulation of fragile materials
Preferred Qualifications
Additional qualifications are valued, including but not limited to:

- Supervisory skills
- Archival studies certificate or degree emphasis
- Knowledge of best practices and emerging trends for digital repositories and digital archives
- Technical skills including format validation and conversion methods or data integrity techniques and technologies or digital asset management systems
- Familiarity with preservation theory and associated risks
- Experience in information visualization, 3D technology, or gaming

Status, Salary, and Benefits
This is a full-time, non-tenure track faculty appointment at the Lecturer level with an annual 12 month contract. 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). This position receives 22 vacation days annually plus University holidays and other fringe benefits and special discounts.

Timeline
With an expected start date of July, 2014, review of applications will begin immediately. Those received before March 3, 2014, will receive full consideration. Review will continue until the suitable candidate is hired for the position.

Application Procedure
All application materials must be submitted electronically. A letter of application, a 350-500 word essay detailing your interest in and qualifications for the position as they relate to diversity, a current resume, and contact information for three professional references should be sent as attachments to: Detra.Becker@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, Nursing & Health Professions, Engineering, and 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.