Health Sciences Liaison Librarian

The University Library at the University of Saskatchewan provides tremendous opportunities for professional growth and development in a dynamic and flexible work environment. We operate within a supportive campus community focused on innovation, collaboration and engagement. The library is strategically aligned with the University’s vision, focusing on: the teacher-learner experience; researcher, scholar and practitioner interaction; and building broad relationship and engagement opportunities. The library continually seeks to improve operational effectiveness with a strong focus on employee engagement.

Accountabilities of the Position
This position reports to the Head of the Health Sciences Library.

Librarians, as faculty, are assigned duties aligned with the practice of professional skills outlined in the Library Standards for Promotion and Tenure (2003, as amended). Duties may cover the development of the collections, organizing collections, teaching information research skills, information services, information technology, administration, and research/scholarly work.

Practice of Professional Skills
The library follows the liaison librarian model, which includes reference, instruction, and collections responsibilities to support on-site and distributed teaching, learning and research. As part of the Health Sciences Library team, this position supports all health sciences disciplines. The components of professional practice include:

- **Development of the Collections**
  Develop collections and information resources in the health sciences, primarily in the areas of biomedical sciences, public health, and community health and epidemiology.

- **Information Services**
  Provide, as part of the library’s integrated reference model, reference and information services for students, faculty, researchers, and the broader community.

- **Teaching Information Research Skills**
  Provide group and individual information research instruction, including participation in the delivery of the integrated Medical Informatics course. This may include providing library services to locations beyond the campus. Develop instructional and training materials in print, web-based, and interactive formats using e-learning technologies where appropriate.
• **Research and Scholarship**

Research and scholarship activity is a key component of the practice of professional skills. Librarians are expected to engage in research and scholarly work leading to the development of a formal program of research, and actively disseminate research results via peer-reviewed outlets. For examples of Librarian’s scholarly work see: [http://ecommons.usask.ca](http://ecommons.usask.ca)

**Administration and Public Service**

It is an expectation that all Librarians participate in collegial activities appropriate to their rank, and are encouraged to engage with academic or professional organizations.

**Qualifications, Experience and Competencies**

A Master of Library Science or equivalent degree from a university/institution recognized by the University of Saskatchewan is required. Candidates should also possess:

- Basic biology and genetics and/or bioinformatics resources knowledge
- Experience in academic librarianship, including teaching/instruction
- Demonstrated understanding and knowledge of trends in reference and research services, and in the delivery of library and information services in the educational environment
- Knowledge and understanding of current and emerging library and information systems, educational tools and databases
- Strong analytical, organizational and customer service skills
- Effective listening, communication and interpersonal skills
- A commitment to continuing development of professional knowledge and skills

Candidates must be able to:

- Be flexible in a changing and dynamic environment
- Highlight their commitment to service
- Demonstrate ability to work independently as well as in a collegial team environment
- Demonstrate ability to develop and manage collections in multiple formats
- Demonstrate development of professional knowledge and skills on a continuing basis
- Be flexible regarding their work schedule

Appointment is subject to a probationary period of three to five years and specific duties are assigned annually by the Dean, University Library. Librarians as faculty are members of the University of Saskatchewan Faculty Association. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and for this position the initial salary is anticipated to be within the range of $52,731 to $57,000. Faculty enjoy an excellent benefits plan as well as research start-up support.

**About the University Library and the Health Sciences branch**

The University Library ([library.usask.ca](http://library.usask.ca)) is one of Canada’s leading research libraries and, as such, is a member of the Association of Research Libraries and the Canadian Association of Research Libraries. In addition to its electronic services and seven campus locations, the library’s 150 FTE faculty and staff serve over 27,000 U of S faculty, staff and students. The *University Library Strategic Plan* sets an ambitious program for the transformation of library resources, facilities and services, and is designed to ensure the library’s continued growth and development over the course of the University’s second century of development.

The Health Sciences Library serves the Colleges of Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy and Nutrition, Kinesiology, and the Schools of Physical Therapy and Public Health. There are seven librarians and six support staff in the branch who provide subject liaison, reference, instruction, interlibrary loan and circulation services to support learners, teachers and researchers both on
campus and in a distributed learning environment. Interprofessional collaboration is an emerging focus of the health sciences curricula and faculty research initiatives. Construction of a new Health Sciences Library, as part of the larger Academic Health Sciences Project (http://www.usask.ca/healthsciences), began in late 2009; the anticipated completion date is 2013.

About the University of Saskatchewan and the City of Saskatoon
Established in 1907, the University of Saskatchewan has evolved into an institution of note in advanced education and research in Canada. Its Strategic Directions and Integrated Plan outline a vision focused on international standards in all activities, academic pre-eminence and a sense of place. The opening of a Canadian Light Source synchrotron, construction of an International Vaccine Centre, the establishment of new graduate Schools of Public Health, Public Policy, and Environment and Sustainability, and significant capital building projects to revitalize Law, Veterinary Medicine, Health Sciences, and library buildings on campus are just some of the University’s recent achievements. The University has a reputation for innovation and excellence in education and boasts one of the most attractive campuses in the country.

Saskatoon (saskatoon.ca), a city of approximately 220,000, is situated on the banks of the South Saskatchewan River, which is crossed by seven bridges within the city limits. The city offers a scenic riverbank, many parks, a diverse and thriving economic base, a vibrant cultural community, affordable living and a high quality of life

To Apply
The Search Committee comprises all Librarians holding probationary or tenured appointments within the library. The CVs of all applicants will be made available in confidence to the members of the Search Committee.

Applicants wishing to apply should send their curriculum vitae, the names of three references, and a statement outlining their knowledge, experience, and abilities as related to the position by February 24, 2010. Approximate start date for this position is May 1, 2010.

Please send applications to:

Jill Mierke, Human Resources Manager
University Library
University of Saskatchewan
Room 156 Murray Building
3 Campus Drive
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5A4

Fax: 306-966-5932
Email: library.jobs@usask.ca

Confidential inquiries can be directed to Jill Mierke, Human Resources Manager
Telephone 306-966-5927

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. The University is committed to Employment Equity. Members of Designated Groups (women, aboriginal people, people with disabilities and visible minorities) are encouraged to self-identify on their applications.