Director of Open Initiatives & Scholarly Communication

The University of Oklahoma (OU) Libraries seeks a dynamic and collaborative leader to serve as the Director of Open Initiatives & Scholarly Communication (OISC). As part of the Digital Strategies and Innovation Division, the Director will lead a team of librarians in advancing scholarly communication services, playing a key role in implementing the university's recently adopted Open Access (OA) policy to expand OU's impact of research, teaching, and learning.

Guided by OU's objective of becoming a top-tier public research university and it's vision to change lives, the Director will champion the expansion of open and public scholarship, advancing the OA policy. Through vision and strategy, they will develop, implement, and assess sustainable, technology-driven models for scholarly and open educational content creation and stewardship that amplify the university's global impact.

The Director will foster key partnerships with faculty, researchers, and staff, contributing expertise in institutional repositories, open access, copyright, and open education. This role manages day-to-day operations for the OISC department, including selection, training, and evaluation of employees; developing and monitoring departmental program budgets, participating in the development of policies, programs, and services; working with vendors, campus units, agencies and other client groups; coordinating relevant collection development and grant research; editing newsletters and publications; participating in library and university committees and task forces related to primary job assignment; remaining current about professional trends and developments; developing and conducting education programs for staff members; compiling and preparing financial, statistical, and various other types of reports; and performing various duties as needed to successfully fulfill the function of the position. Other duties as assigned.

Position Responsibilities:

Direct OISC Programmatic Services and Division Leadership

- Develop and refine strategies for impactful scholarly communication services, aligned with Libraries and university goals.
- Participate in Digital Strategies and Innovation (DSI) division planning and serve on the DSI senior leadership team.
- Lead programming and outreach efforts on open access, institutional repositories, and scholarly communication topics.
- Collaborate with faculty, students, and staff to build programs and initiatives that expand open access and scholarly communication.
- Lead partnerships with internal and external stakeholders, including the Office of the Vice President for Research and Partnerships, to advance scholarly communication services.
- Stays abreast of scholarly communications including publishing trends, intellectual property rights, copyright, etc.
- Participates in the strategic evaluation, selection, and adoption of technology solutions to build and enhance scholarly communication infrastructure.

Supervisory and Administrative

- Oversee the OISC department's day-to-day operations, including hiring, training, and performance management.
- Lead outreach and programming for scholarly communication initiatives, such as author rights, copyright, open access, and institutional repository promotion.
- Collaborate with Graduate College and other stakeholders on institutional repository priorities, including managing electronic theses and dissertations.
- Promote and direct the Libraries' open journal publishing, open educational resources, scholarly communication, and other department services and foster the growth of open initiatives on campus.

Scholarly Communication Consulting

- Provides training on copyrights, author rights, and open access to library staff, and offers consultations on complex scholarly communication issues.
- Works with liaison librarians and OISC team to integrate scholarly communication support into information literacy instruction.
- Lead the development of innovative scholarly communication service models that meet evolving user needs.

Analytics and Insights

- Establishes a culture of data collection and reporting (LibInsights, Google Analytics, Jira, etc.) in support of data-driven decision-making and program improvement.
- Establishes expectations and contributes to metrics reporting and visualization of analysis of systems use and impact.

Campus Contributions and Professional Activity

- Maintains up-to-date professional knowledge and contacts in areas related to primary job assignments.
- Participates in library and university committees.
- Serves and participates in professional activities at the local, state, regional, national, and international levels as appropriate to position and experience.
- May publish and present work-related topics and research.

Qualifications:

Required Education and Experience: Master's degree in any subject, AND:

- 24 months of related academic experience.

Skills:

- Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to effectively communicate with end-users at varying technological skill levels.
- Highly organized and demonstrated ability to handle multiple projects and deadlines.
- Experience leading outreach initiatives with a high level of engagement; demonstrated success in building collaborative programs with stakeholders and advancing open initiatives.
- Demonstrated experience leading, developing, and implementing a strong strategic vision for advancing open initiatives that align with strategic goals and priorities.
- Demonstrated experience with data driven decision making; and planning, implementing, and evaluating services.
- Demonstrated experience effectively coordinating and motivating team members; and commitment to mentoring, training, and developing staff.
- Ability to work collegially in a leadership role, and manage in a complex and changing environment, to define goals and timelines, and coordinate existing staff and technology resources to achieve or exceed desired outcomes.
- Extensive knowledge of the scholarly communication landscape; scholarly publishing technologies, initiatives, and best practices; and open access publishing; academic publishing platforms.
- Proficiency with contemporary library software systems and software applications.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Master's degree in Library Science or equivalent from an ALA-accredited program or advanced degree in a relevant field.
- Supervisory experience.
- Experience working with institutional repositories and a desire to contribute to the next generation of campus repositories.
- Knowledge of copyright, licensing, and other intellectual property issues relevant to an academic environment.

Applications

All applications must include a cover letter, resume and list of three professional references. Hiring will be contingent upon submission of academic transcripts. Interested individuals may review the full position description at libraries.ou.edu/jobs. To apply for this position, go to https://jobs.ou.edu and search for job number 250275. Best consideration date for applications is March 14, 2025.

About University Libraries

University Libraries seeks to create an atmosphere in which diverse thought and experiences are valued and that promises opportunities to succeed and thrive. Named an "Education Futurist" and recipient of a Campus Technology Innovators Award, the University of Oklahoma Libraries' award-winning facilities and resources create opportunities for faculty and students to excel. We invest in our organization by recruiting individuals committed to superior user experience and by

actively strengthening and expanding our skills and capabilities.

The University of Oklahoma Libraries' team consists of 16 library faculty, 51 professional staff, and 35 classified staff, as well as graduate and undergraduate assistants. Facilities include the Bizzell Memorial Library located in the heart of campus, Monnet Hall, hosting the Western History Collections, and three branch libraries: Architecture Library, Youngblood Energy Library, and Fine Arts Library. Affiliated OU libraries, not within the administrative oversight of University Libraries, include: the Donald E. Pray Law Library on the Norman campus, Robert M. Bird Health Sciences Library on the Oklahoma City campus, and the Schusterman Library on the Tulsa campus.

The University of Oklahoma Libraries is the largest academic research library in the state of Oklahoma containing more than 5.4 million volumes (including 1.8 million eBooks), 3.6 million microform materials, over 300 databases, and 170,000 serials. Outstanding special collections include the History of Science Collections, with 100,000 volumes; the Western History Collections, with over 12,000 linear feet of manuscripts, 2 million photographs, 80,000 volumes, 2,700 sound recordings, 5,000 cartographic resources, and 580 works of art; the Harry W. Bass Business History Collections, with over 23,000 volumes; the John and Mary Nichols Rare Books and Special Collections, with over 12,000 volumes; and the Chinese Literature Translation Archive, which houses nearly 10,000 volumes and thousands of documents relating to translators of modern Chinese literature in the West.

University Libraries is a member of the Association of Research Libraries, Center for Research Libraries, Coalition for Networked Information, Greater Western Libraries Alliance, Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources, Council on Library and Information Resources, Digital Public Library of America, HathiTrust, Western Storage Trust, Open Textbook Network, Library Publishing Coalition.

About the University

The University of Oklahoma serves the educational, cultural, economic, and healthcare needs of the state, region, and nation from three campuses: Norman, Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City, and Tulsa Schusterman Center. The university is home to over 31,000 students, more than 3,500 faculty and 8,000 staff across all three campuses and is supported by a $2 billion budget and an endowment of $1.52 billion. In 2014, OU became the first public institution ever to rank #1 nationally in the recruitment of National Merit Scholars. The 277-acre Research Campus in Norman was named the No. 1 research campus in the nation by the Association of Research Parks in 2013.

The central campus and administrative offices of the University of Oklahoma are located in Norman, a city of more than 120,000 residents. Norman is often cited in "best places to live" rankings and is a culturally rich and vibrant community with outstanding schools, amenities, and a low cost of living. See visitnorman.com for more information about Norman. The state capital, Oklahoma City, is located 20 miles to the north. With over 1.35 million residents and a unique central plains heritage, the Oklahoma City metro is home to a diverse and lively array of arts, culture, dining, sports, and entertainment. For more information about Oklahoma City, see visitokc.com

Why You Belong at the University of Oklahoma: The University of Oklahoma fosters an inclusive culture of respect and civility, belonging, and access, which are essential to our collective pursuit of excellence and our determination to change lives. The unique talents, perspectives, and experiences of our community enrich the learning, and working environment at OU, inspiring us to harness our innovation, creativity, and collaboration for the advancement of people everywhere.

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

The University of Oklahoma, in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, age, religion, disability, political beliefs, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices, or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to, admissions, employment, financial aid, housing, services in educational programs or activities, and health care services that the University operates or provides.