



Head of Research Services

Open Faculty Search

General Description

The Head of Research Services is responsible for leadership for the research services portfolio in the OSU Libraries, which encompasses traditional and emerging forms of reference service; for analysis of the strategic environment for Libraries, of academic program needs, and of changing user behaviors, preferences, and work practices; and for developing, refining, assessing, and sustaining an evolving program of research services for faculty, researchers, and students throughout the university. The incumbent leads and develops both library faculty and staff through mentoring and planned in-house training; speaks for the Libraries on issues pertaining to the research services suite; and collaborates with colleagues both within and beyond the Libraries in promoting research services as essential to the research productivity and enhanced learning of all members of the University community.

60% Librarianship

- Develops and implements research services, including traditional and emerging reference services.
- Plans extensions of traditional reference into virtual environments (course management systems, social media).
- Collects data and tracks trends in reference service, along with other administrators throughout the libraries; has the lead role for reporting on reference service trends for all the libraries.
- Creates new research services program in collaboration with other library administrators and subject librarians, focused on data services, data management, visualization software, knowledge management tools, geospatial/GIS software, and others.
- Supervises nine library faculty and three classified staff in Thompson Library Reference Department.
- Provides oversight of general reference collections in Thompson Library.
- Collaborates with department library heads in advancing research services in appropriate discipline-specific ways throughout the libraries.
- Collaborates with Subject Librarian Team Leaders in creating new programs, services, and tools to advance the collaborative and interdisciplinary work of subject librarians.
- Works with facilities planning staff and other personnel in assessing space needs in Thompson Library and department libraries in creating "commons" spaces (research or learning commons).
- Conducts user research as a foundation for creating new services and programs, and collaborates with assessment specialists within and outside the Libraries in order to advance program planning.

20% Scholarship/research

- Conducts appropriate research and publishes in appropriate venues in order to meet the Libraries' and the University's requirements for tenure and promotion; presents at appropriate professional conferences to meet same requirements.
- Conducts action research with organizational benefits to the Libraries.
- Mentors library faculty in their scholarly projects and research.

20% Service

- Serves on Library committees, task forces, and working groups that address long-term strategic challenges and opportunities and well as shorter-term operational issues for the libraries.
- Serves on University groups as appropriate, especially those focused on research, academic program review or changes, faculty productivity, strategic planning, or others as appropriate.
- Serves on community organizations that promote literacy and those that promote a greater understanding of the research enterprise among the wider public.

Required Qualifications:

- ALA-accredited MLS degree, or its equivalent
- Demonstrated understanding of trends in research processes and practices of faculty, researchers, and students at all levels; knowledge of major trends in scholarly communication, copyright, the research lifecycle, data curation, library assessment, and teaching and learning practices in higher education
- Ability to articulate a vision for a broadened research services portfolio for academic libraries, encompassing the multiple phases of the research life cycle
- Grasp of the strategic environment for research libraries
- Familiarity with best practices for reference and research consultation services
- In-depth knowledge of the current research on user behavior
- Ability to conduct research on user behavior and to use findings in developing services and program
- Supervisory experience in an academic or research library, or equivalent experience
- Demonstrated leadership ability and capacity to inspire staff

Preferred Qualifications:

- Familiarity with interdisciplinary research, teaching, and learning trends in higher education
- Familiarity with various models of learning and research commons, and ability to conduct program planning in conjunction with facilities planning
- Demonstrated ability to form teams and collaborate with a wide range of colleagues within and beyond the library
- Experience with strategic planning, staff development, and budgets
- A track record of successful experimentation and innovation in program development
- Capacity for change leadership

Rank/Salary:

This is a full-time, permanent, 12-month tenure-track faculty appointment. Salary and faculty rank are dependent on qualifications and experience.

Benefits:

The University offers competitive benefits in the form of 22 days vacation, 15 days sick leave, 10 holidays, hospitalization, major medical, surgical-medical, dental, vision, long-term disability insurance, and life insurance at 2.5 times one's annual salary. State and alternative retirement choices are also available. For a summary of benefits, see:

<http://hr.osu.edu/hrpubs/ben/fs-bensummaryreg.pdf>

Founded in 1870, The Ohio State University is a comprehensive, state-assisted university offering a complete environment for learning for its 3,000 faculty and 60,000 students. Additional information about The Ohio State University Libraries is available at <http://library.osu.edu>.

Application:

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Preference will be given to applications received after October 28, 2011 and before January 29, 2012. Please send cover letter, CV and references via email using the subject line of **Head of Research Service Applicant** to:

Greg Newman
Human Resources
The Ohio State University Libraries
1858 Neil Avenue Mall
Columbus, OH 43210
614-247-8887 / newman.25@osu.edu

To build a diverse workforce Ohio State encourages applications from individuals with disabilities, minorities, veterans, and women. EEO/AA employer.