Position Announcement

Digital Application Development Librarian

The University of Miami Libraries seeks applications for a collaborative and innovative Digital Application Development Librarian. Reporting to the Head of Web & Application development, this position will develop software and applications in support of digital initiatives and library infrastructure, help establish practices for software development and deployment, investigate and evaluate emerging academic and library technologies, and conduct research according to their interests and the Libraries’ needs. The Digital Application Development Librarian is a faculty position and will collaborate with and support faculty and staff across the Libraries, with a focus on projects from the Digital Strategies unit.

This is an exciting moment at the University of Miami Libraries. Our infrastructure is evolving, and as a result there are many potential opportunities for the Digital Application Development Librarian. These could include: working with a team to select and implement a replacement for the current digital asset management system (CONTENTdm); testing and deploying digital preservation workflows and tools; developing integrations with the library services (Alma) and discovery platforms (Primo); helping with web development projects; working on the next version of the open-source SubjectsPlus software; exploring DevOps as we move to a new relationship with Campus IT for our server infrastructure; supporting the developing UM hosted regional hub for the Florida DPLA Network; and assisting with emerging projects coming out of GIS, Digital Humanities and Research Data Services (but not all at once!).

UNIVERSITY: The University of Miami is one of the nation’s leading research universities in a community of extraordinary diversity and international vitality. The University is privately supported, non-sectarian institution, located in Coral Gables, Florida, on a 260-acre subtropical campus. The University comprises 11 degree granting schools and colleges, including Architecture, Arts and Sciences, Business Administration, Communication, Education, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Music, Nursing, and Marine and Atmospheric Science (www.miami.edu).

THE LIBRARY: The University of Miami Libraries (www.library.miami.edu) rank among the top 50 research libraries in North America with a collection of 3.6 million volumes including 771,000 ebooks, and 92,958 current serials titles including 90,550 electronic journals. The Otto G. Richter Library lies in the center of the Coral Gables campus and serves as the central library for the University. Other University of Miami libraries include the Paul Buisson Architecture Library, the Judi Prokop Newman Business Information Resource Center, the Marta & Austin Weeks Music Library, and the Marine and Atmospheric Science Library. The University also has independent medical and law libraries. The Libraries provide support and services for approximately 10,370 undergraduates, 5,259 graduate students, and 13,058 full and part time faculty and staff. Excluding the independent libraries, the University Libraries employ 56 professional and 90 support staff and are a member of ARL, CNI, ASERL, CLIR, DLF, NERL, OCLC Research Library Partners, SEFLIN, IFLA, IATUL, HathiTrust, APTrust, and Lyrasis.
THE DEPARTMENT: The Web & Application Development department creates and manages the public interfaces for library systems and software, develops and customizes library software, and leads user experience design. We collaborate closely with people across all library departments from our home on the third floor of the Richter Library on the Coral Gables campus. Our primary languages are Ruby on Rails, PHP and JavaScript, but we dip into other languages and frameworks as appropriate. The department consists of a Head, two Application Developers, a Web Developer, and a Digital Application Development Librarian, who work both independently and collaboratively (on a project-by-project basis). We use the Scrum/Agile project management methodology for some larger projects.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Application Development

- Investigate, identify and develop tools and procedures to help support new web and digital projects.
- Work with stakeholders to assess the viability of new projects; help them develop requirements and select suitable technologies or strategies to move forward.
- Plan and/or consult on application design for projects developed outside of the Web & Application Development department, e.g., Digital Strategies (including Digital Collections and Infrastructure, GIS Services, Digital Humanities, Data Curation) and Systems.
- Lead the work of developers to build out selected applications and services. Develop software to integrate web services with various open source and commercial library products, including search and retrieval, metadata harvesting, and discovery.
- With the Head of Web & Application Development, develop best practices for software development and deployment, including: automation and processes to deploy, manage, configure, scale and monitor applications.
- Works closely with the Digital Architecture & Infrastructure Librarian to investigate, implement, and test emerging digital infrastructure and preservation technologies.
- Keep on top of best practices and latest concepts in the field of application development and keep members of Web & Application Development and Digital Strategies (as appropriate) informed.
- Research and experiment with new languages, frameworks, techniques and technologies that might be of eventual benefit to the Libraries.
- Serve as liaison to the Digital Strategies unit

Professional Development and Service

- Network, collaborate, and actively participate in local, regional, national, and/or international organizations;
- Represent and promote the University of Miami Libraries in local, state-wide, regional, national, or international organizations, as appropriate; and
- Serve on/participate in Libraries and University organizations, committees, task forces, and teams as appropriate.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- An ALA-accredited MLS or MLIS degree, advanced degree in Computer or Information Science, or other relevant field and experience.
• Intermediate to advanced knowledge of one or more programming languages (e.g., PHP, JavaScript, Python, Ruby) and frameworks (e.g., Rails, jQuery).
• Experience with version control systems such as Git.
• Experience with XML/XSLT and metadata extraction, transformation, and repurposing.
• Familiarity with current and emerging trends in application development.
• Experience working in an agile or semi-agile environment.
• Demonstrated organizational, analytical, and problem solving skills.
• Demonstrated effective oral, written, and interpersonal communication skills.
• Demonstrated commitment to user-centered service and the ability to work flexibly and creatively in a changing and fast-paced environment with a culturally diverse population.
• Evidence of capacity for professional development, involvement, and contribution.

PREFERRED
• Two years academic library experience.
• Working experience with digital asset/management/preservation systems (such as CONTENTdm, Fedora, Hydra, DSpace, Omeka, etc.).
• Familiarity with digital library standards/protocols such as Dublin Core, MARC, METS, EAD, OAI-PMH.
• A good understanding of current trends in metadata, digital preservation, and digital libraries.
• Experience in developing and leading new services and programs for multidisciplinary set of stakeholders.

SALARY AND BENEFITS: Compensation will be competitive and commensurate with experience and qualifications. This is a non-tenure track faculty appointment at the Librarian Assistant or Associate Professor rank. The position offers a comprehensive benefits package including: TIAA-CREF; medical and dental insurance; life, disability, and long-term care insurance available; tuition remission; 13 paid holidays; and 22 days annual vacation. Additional employment benefits available include credit union; Employee Assistance Program; bookstore, and sporting event discounts; optional fee-based membership in a state-of-the-art wellness center, and no state or local income taxes.

APPLICATIONS: Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Applications should be submitted electronically and must include a letter of interest, curriculum vitae and the names of three references. Send nominations and applications to:

Human Resources Manager University of Miami Libraries P.O. Box 248214 Coral Gables, FL 33124-0320
e-mail: richter.recruiting@miami.edu

The University of Miami is an Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer. The University has a strong commitment to diversity and encourages applications