NATURE OF WORK: This is a full-time permanent librarian position in the Research Commons with responsibilities for GIS and Geospatial data, maps and liaison services to the Department of Geography. The librarian in this position is a forward-focused individual who will continue to grow the Libraries’ GIS and Geospatial Data Center and services program, helping to develop the strategic direction of these services in the Research Commons. Through consultations, workshops, and other programming, the Geospatial Specialist Librarian will build relationships in order to support researchers’ geospatial data literacy needs, leveraging emerging technologies that enhance access to data, and assist researchers with data-intensive forms of research and scholarly expression. S/he will be an expert in applying geospatial concepts and techniques to the research agendas of faculty and students, will manage the geography and maps collections, maintaining strong relationships with faculty and students, and will enhance curricula and research innovation across the University relating to spatial and visual thinking. The Geospatial Specialist Librarian will also support internal Libraries needs by providing workshops and training support to liaison librarians and other library staff. The successful candidate will also serve as a subject liaison librarian to the Department of Geography.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develops a robust GIS and Geospatial Data Program based on analysis of constituent needs through the University. Continues to grow GIS and Geospatial Data Center. Supports GIS activities by promoting techniques associated with specialized, evolving GIS tools.
- Actively engages and collaborates with the Department of Geography and other units on campus to develop a comprehensive plan for GIS services in the Libraries Research Commons, and on campus.
- Supports data visualization activities by promoting techniques associated with specialized, evolving data visualization tools for spatial applications.
• Designs and delivers consulting services to faculty and students using spatial data in a wide range of units across the University, and collaborates with units already providing GIS consulting.
• Develops and teaches workshops in GIS tools and methods.
• Works closely with the Digital Programs and Initiatives, and others to increase understanding of geospatial and data issues pertaining to research and teaching throughout the Libraries and on campus at large.
• Responsible for acquiring, developing, and curating geospatial data collections and for leveraging research software and technology resources to enhance course development and research innovation.
• Serves as library liaison to the Department of Geography, which involves, but is not limited to, promoting services available through the Libraries, teaching introductory and upper level GIS workshops, and other related courses in support of the Libraries information literacy efforts and faculty research, creating web and digital content, developing and managing print and electronic collections, providing research data management services, and overseeing the maps collection in all formats and locations.
• Provides general and subject-specific information and research service in person, by phone, through CHAT, IM, and by email, exploring new ways of communication and challenging existing limitations.
• Participates in the activities of Research and Learning Department, in library and campus committees as appropriate.
• Participates in professional development activities.
• Performs other duties as assigned.
• Contributes to the University’s and Libraries’ goals regarding equity and inclusion

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:
• Extensive use of the computer.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES:
• Hourly student assistants

QUALIFICATIONS (Knowledge, skills, and abilities):

EDUCATION:

Required

• ALA-accredited Master’s degree in Library Information Science from an ALA-accredited institution of higher education, or equivalent professional degree.

Preferred
• Significant coursework, a bachelor’s degree or second advanced degree in a GIS-related field, and/or experience in working with geospatial data and technology.
• Knowledge of the organization of information and of scholarship in the geospatial science disciplines.

EXPERIENCE (Be specific, indicate the minimum years of experience and skills needed):

Required

• Understanding of current and emerging trends in GIS, cartography and related geospatial fields, including information resources and applications.
• Experience with GIS software such as ArcGIS (Map, Pro, Online, etc.), Story Map, and/or open source tools like QGIS.
• Experience with or aptitude for working effectively and creatively with faculty and students.
• Experience with or aptitude for providing reference and research assistance in an academic or special library.
• Experience with or aptitude for information literacy instruction.
• Excellent oral and written communication skills
• Excellent interpersonal skills with the ability to function independently and in groups, build and maintain relationships with partners and library staff
• Ability to provide exceptional service to a diverse clientele.

Preferred

• One year of library or related professional experience.
• Knowledge of the research process and evolving models of scholarly communication, open access, institutional repositories, and other trends in information science.
• Flexibility, adaptability, and the ability to work successfully in a complex, dynamic environment with competing demands.
• Ability to conduct environmental scans and reviews of faculty and student research needs.
• Demonstrated strong teaching abilities.
• Experience in or aptitude towards collection development in Geography, including in specialized formats required by the discipline.
• Experience with software for statistical, quantitative and/or qualitative analysis, such as SPSS, Stata, SAS, R, Python, NVivo.
• Understanding of and/or willingness to learn math and statistical analysis.
FACULTY REQUIREMENTS: This position is appointed to Library Faculty Ranks as established by the University System of Maryland Board of Regents. Rank at appointment is based on the successful applicant’s experience and relevant credentials. Library Faculty at the University of Maryland must demonstrate accomplishments and/or evidence of potential for future accomplishments in three areas: 1) librarianship, which includes the assigned area(s) of responsibility and professional development; 2) service, which includes participation in library, university, local, and national committees and professional organizations beyond the assigned area(s) of responsibility; and 3) research, scholarship, and/or creative activities, which includes self-directed inquiry and results dissemination to advance the state of the profession. Library faculty who are successful in meeting these criteria are awarded continuous employment in the form of Permanent Status. For additional information on faculty status at the University of Maryland Libraries, consult: http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/2014-ii-100b.html.

Employee’s Signature________________________  Date__________

Print Employee’s Name______________________________________

Supervisor’s Signature______________________  Date___________

*Note: Asterisk indicates these are essential job functions.

Rev 07/25/19