

University Librarian

**University of Guelph
Guelph, Ontario**

The University of Guelph is searching for a strategic leader to serve as its next University Librarian. This is an exciting opportunity to shape the future of library services at one of Canada's top comprehensive universities.

About the University of Guelph

The University of Guelph is renowned for its commitment to excellence in teaching, research, and exceptional student experiences. Located on the traditional lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, the University is deeply committed to reconciliation and creating an inclusive campus environment. Guelph consistently ranks among Canada's top universities for its interdisciplinary approach, fostering creativity and collaboration across a range of academic disciplines.

The University of Guelph Library is at the heart of campus life, supporting a diverse academic community of students, faculty, and researchers. The Library provides access to cutting-edge technology, rich collections, and collaborative learning spaces that enable discovery and knowledge generation. With a focus on user-centered services and the integration of emerging digital tools, the Library is a key partner in the University's academic and research missions.

The Role

The University Librarian will oversee all aspects of the Library's operations, including its physical and digital collections, research and teaching support services, and student success initiatives. Reporting to the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), the University Librarian will provide visionary leadership to the University's library system, advancing the institution's mission to improve life through academic excellence, research innovation, and community engagement. As the Library's chief advocate, the University Librarian will work collaboratively with internal and external constituents to foster a culture of innovation, equity, and accessibility. The Librarian will be the representative from the University to key networks and consortia, such as the Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL), Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL), the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN), and the Association of Research Libraries (ARL).

Key areas of responsibility include:

Strategic Leadership: Develop and implement a forward-thinking vision for library services, aligned with the University's strategic priorities, fostering a culture of innovation and excellence.

Operational Oversight: Lead the management of library resources, including budget oversight, staffing, and the stewardship of physical and digital infrastructure.

Teaching and Research Support: Champion the Library's role in supporting academic success, research innovation, and digital literacy, ensuring services meet the needs of a diverse user base.

Community Engagement: Build and strengthen relationships with campus partners, external organizations, and professional networks to enhance the Library's profile and impact.

Commitment to Equity and Inclusion: Promote diversity, equity, and inclusion within the Library and ensure its services are accessible to all members of the University community.

The Ideal Candidate

The successful candidate is an experienced and dynamic library professional with a proven track record of leadership in academic or research libraries. They bring a deep understanding of the evolving role of libraries in higher education, with a demonstrated ability to foster creativity and manage change. With a commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion, the ideal candidate is a collaborative leader who inspires trust and builds strong relationships across a broad spectrum of constituents.

Qualifications and Experience

While the Search Committee recognizes that no single candidate is likely to meet all qualifications in equal measure, those listed below are desirable and will be used to compare candidates.

- A Master's degree in Library and Information Science (MLIS) or equivalent, accredited by ALA.
- Significant leadership experience in academic or research libraries, including management of staff, budgets, and complex projects.
- Expertise in library services, digital initiatives, and emerging trends in information management.
- A strong commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to work effectively in a collaborative, interdisciplinary environment.
- A record of scholarship and professional service in the library field.
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills such as but not limited to decision-making, creative thinking.

Attributes

- A collaborative leader who seeks out opportunities to engage others in partnership.
- Exceptional communication skills, with the ability to be persuasive while addressing different audiences and translating knowledge effectively.
- A consultative leadership style, able to lead through complex situations with authenticity and transparency.
- The ability to respond to challenges with integrity and pragmatism.
- The ability to work collegially and effectively within a unionized environment, building trusting relationships.
- A kind and relational leader who projects calm and inspires hope.
- A curious spirit with a desire to be creative.

Why Join the University of Guelph?

The University of Guelph offers a vibrant and inclusive campus community that values collaboration, innovation, and impact. As the University Librarian, you will have the opportunity to lead a dynamic library system at a globally recognized institution dedicated to improving life.

Deadline for applications is January 20, 2025.

We will provide support in the recruitment processes for applicants with disabilities, including accommodation that considers an applicant's accessibility needs. If you require accommodation to participate as a candidate in the recruitment process, please contact accommodate@kbrs.ca

If you are interested in this opportunity, contact Debra Clinton at dclinton@kbrs.ca, Kyle Steele at ksteele@kbrs.ca, or Dr. Jennie Massey at jmassey@kbrs.ca or submit your full application package [online on the KBRS Website](#).