Dean of Libraries

Posting Details

Job Title
Dean of Libraries

Requisition Number
FE01257

Working Title

Department Name
89000: Provost

Work Location
Lexington, KY

Type of Position
Faculty

Position Time Status
Full-Time

Tenure Track Status
Tenure Track

Required Education
Masters degree in library science and/or terminal degree

Required Related Experience
At least 10 years of progressively responsible leadership and management experience in an academic library setting

Required License/Registration/Certification
N/A

Job Summary
The University of Kentucky is seeking a transformative leader to serve as Dean of Libraries. With one of the nation’s largest book endowments for public university libraries, UK Libraries plays a vital role in ensuring student success, as well as enhancing the intellectual and economic capital – both on campus and beyond. The Dean will lead with passion, creativity and excellence to cultivate an interactive environment for interdisciplinary discovery and research, while transforming our libraries into hubs of life-long learning. This position will work collaboratively with library and academic leadership, to direct the College and support the goals of Kentucky’s flagship, land-grant University’s strategic plan.
The Dean’s primary responsibilities will be to:

• Lead faculty and staff to provide outstanding library services and transform facilities into centers of student success.
• Provide vision, strategic direction, and operational leadership for the libraries, working with librarians and staff to meet the College and University’s educational and research missions and ambitious goals for growth.
• Build and cultivate relationships with alumni and other strategic partners to support the Libraries’ research, scholarly, educational, service and fundraising goals.
• Foster a highly collaborative and inclusive environment, one that values and leverages the benefits of diverse perspectives to attract, recruit, and retain top faculty and staff.
• Serve, along with 18 other deans, as an equal member of the Provost’s council.
• Direct content management, acquisition, and promotion of materials to meet the needs of students, faculty, staff, and clinicians.
• Engage in professional activities within the University and across the state, region and nation as well as supporting continual professional development for library staff and faculty.

As the premier research library in the Commonwealth and the University’s intellectual hub, UK Libraries is central to the institution’s mission of excellence in education, research, service and health care to enrich the lives of Kentuckians and beyond. Our tenured and non-tenured faculty and staff operate as key collaborators across campus to prepare students for leadership in the knowledge economy and a global society. UK Libraries has combined holdings totaling more than four million volumes and provided key support for research awards resulting in over $330 million in FY2017.

Application materials should include the following:

• Curriculum vitae
• Cover letter summarizing relevant experience in leadership, administration, and scholarly work. Please include your vision of how academic research libraries should incorporate changing trends to enhance intellectual discovery
• Names, addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of four references (References will not be contacted without candidate approval, upload under Specific Request 1)

Priority application review will begin January 22, 2018 and will continue until the position is filled. For more information about the position, please contact UK’s Executive Search Recruiter Mary Beth Bracken at 859-257-3348 or via email at marybeth.bracken@uky.edu.

Skills / Knowledge / Abilities

• Demonstrated initiative and flexibility, as well as the ability to adapt library services in a rapidly changing environment.
• Visionary leadership skills that utilize a participatory style to promote innovation and change management.
• Strong communication skills and transparency in decision making, as well as the ability to cultivate an enriching environment and foster collaboration and diversity.
• Passion for articulating the college’s mission to gain support and financial resources from external and internal partners
• Ability to attract, develop, promote, and retain world-class faculty and staff

Does this position have supervisory responsibilities?  Yes

Preferred Education/Experience

• Experience as a transformative leader, while managing change effectively
• Proven understanding of the complexity of a large research university with a full spectrum of academic colleges, professional schools, and an academic medical center
• Evidence of creating and implementing a vision to advance academic and scholarly
activities

• Strong portfolio of accomplished scholarly work, both independent and collaborative in nature.
• Active participation and leadership in state, regional, and national professional organizations

Deadline to Apply
Open Until Filled Yes

University Community of Inclusion

The University of Kentucky is committed to a diverse and inclusive workforce by ensuring all our students, faculty, and staff work in an environment of openness and acceptance. We strive to foster a community where people of all backgrounds, identities, and perspectives can feel secure and welcome. We also value the well-being of each of our employees and are dedicated to creating a healthy place to work, learn and live. In the interest of maintaining a safe and healthy environment for our students, employees, patients and visitors the University of Kentucky is a Tobacco & Drug Free campus.

As an Equal Opportunity Employer, we strongly encourage veterans, individuals with disabilities, women, and all minorities to consider our employment opportunities.

Any candidate offered a position may be required to pass pre-employment screenings as mandated by University of Kentucky Human Resources. These screenings may include a national background check and/or drug screen.

Posting Specific Questions

Required fields are indicated with an asterisk (*).

Applicant Documents

Required Documents

1. Curriculum Vita
2. Cover Letter
3. Specific Request 1

Optional Documents

None