

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Jim Stemper

Generic Template: Scholarly Communication Librarian Position Description

The Library is dedicated to the promotion of the fundamental role of scholarly communication in a major research university, particularly in the emerging digital publishing environment. This commitment is embodied in the creation of the new position of Scholarly Communication Librarian. The ideal candidate is a librarian with a law degree who would take leadership in safeguarding the role of the Library in the scholarly communication process, including promotion of its full rights, as well as those of the creators, disseminators, and users of scholarly information, under the fair use section of the copyright law. The Library has established a Scholarly Communication Center to offer guidance on university policy to the Library and to faculty, students, and staff on matters pertaining to scholarly communication, such as copyright and fair use, database licensing, and user privacy issues.

Responsibilities

- Has leadership, management, and policy and planning responsibilities for the library-wide scholarly communication program. Implement the Library Strategic Plan and goals and objectives related to the position.
- Lead development and implementation of education program for Library staff on issues of scholarly communication.
- Work closely with liaisons who are involved with collection management and scholarly communication activities in the social sciences, humanities, arts, life, physical, and health sciences fields and prepare communication tools they can use with their constituencies.
- Develop and implement a program to increase awareness among faculty, researchers and students about scholarly communication issues in the digital environment.
- Develop and maintain a broad network of partners among faculty, scholars, graduate students, and administrators and committees in campus and system wide offices to inform, support, and advance the library's scholarly communication programs and goals.
- Be informed of and keep library and faculty up to date on national and international trends, legislation, and pending changes in intellectual property rights, commercial and



academic/research scholarly publishing, and information technologies that affect access and preservation of scholarly information; plan and organize regular campus events and programs in these areas.

- Lead Library participation in current and newly developed initiatives that encourage and enable faculty to manage their own copyright and improve the economics of and access to published research. E.g. establish mechanisms to assist faculty with publishing choices and agreements as authors of information and fair use of copyrighted works as users of information; devise a strategy for populating and promoting use of the campus institutional repository; explore opportunities to facilitate alternative faculty publication venues .
- Act as the primary spokesperson at campus, system wide, state, national, and international levels for issues and policies relating to scholarly communication, ensuring that the Library actively participates in collaborative programs and services, is informed of global publishing trends and intellectual property rights, and contributes to the advancement of scholarly communication.
-

Primarily adapted from the position descriptions for Associate University Librarian, Scholarly Communications, University of California, Los Angeles (<http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/uclasclibrarian.pdf>); Scholarly Publishing and Licensing Consultant, MIT (<http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/mitjob.pdf>); and Scholarly Communication Librarian, North Carolina State University (<http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/ncsclibrarian.pdf>).