

**Evans Library
Florida Institute of Technology
Fellowships/Librarian-in-Residence Program**

January 2014

Background

Florida Institute of Technology's Evans Library mission is to create and sustain an intuitive, trusted information, cultural, and technological environment that enables learning and the advancement of knowledge. Our commitment to sustaining this environment has led to the establishment of a librarian exchange program between Evans Library and other well-established national and international libraries.

Program Summary

The Evans Library *Librarian-In-Residence* (LIR) program is one of sharing knowledge and designed as a mutually beneficial program. A librarian in this program is one who has a masters or doctoral degree in library & information science or related fields and desires a specialized study in librarianship. It is not an academic program, but an individualized program designed according to the needs of both the Evans Library and the LIR, that may incorporate research, theory development, or applied or field observation. On one hand, an accomplished librarian may wish to pursue research interests in areas of specialized content; for example, a reference services expert may wish to study theory and practice. On the other hand, the LIR will have significant involvement in one or more units of Evans Library that offer opportunities for applied work with the purpose of teaching and training Evans Library's librarians within that unit on the subject researched. At Evans Library, the Dean of Libraries in consultation with an appropriate Director will serve as an advisor responsible for planning the program based upon the LIR's interests and the library's needs. Since the information provided in the application is used to assess the prospective LIR's course, it is important that the librarian's goals and objectives be as clear and specific as possible and consistent with the needs of the Library. Thus, Evans Library will invite inquiries of librarians from all over the world for the yearly *Librarian-In-Residence* program to aid in the enrichment of the Library.

Objectives

It is difficult to envision a type of class training with the potential for greater impact on librarians, their institutions, and ultimately the communities they serve than the opportunity to learn from real-life practice with a master in the field. The old-fashioned apprenticeship programs were built on this notion and to this day, they continue to supply the world with the best-trained professionals in fields from pottery to surgery.

The LIR program is a response to the need to cultivate a sustainable environment where Evans Library's librarians, as well as the LIR, can mutually benefit from the exchange of learning, information, culture, and technological advancements during their residency.

The program, through the cooperation and involvement between the librarians and the scholar researcher, aims to provide learning opportunities for library leadership. The LIR will assist Evans Library librarians in acquiring new research skills, unique perspectives essential to changing

institutions, and community skills, which prior to this program, were difficult to acquire. The program will also help Evans Library to create an effective model of action learning programs.

Program Design

With the ongoing trend of globalization, the importance of diversification and awareness is becoming more vital by the day. A library's responsibility is to bring the world to the user. Since libraries offer free information services to all, they bring opportunity to all. And the greatest assets in each of these libraries are the librarians and library workers. Evans Library librarians act as Florida Institute of Technology's window to the world and what better access to the world than the experience of other librarians – from the US and abroad.

Librarian-in-Residence is established to promote cross-cultural and professional dialogue among librarians in accordance to Evans Library's mission and goals. The program's task is to recruit established librarians from progressive libraries from around the world to contribute to the diversity of the professionals at Evans Library, all the while allowing an exchange of knowledge and praxis between the *Librarians-in-Residence* and Evans Library librarians.

Guidelines

- The *Librarian-in-Residence* program will have an established duration of not more than 3 months and no less than 1 week. The timeline will be mutually determined based on the needs and wants of the LIR and Evans Library.
- All residents will be provided professional accommodations within Evans Library.
- All residents will be considered Visiting Librarians, with all the rights and responsibilities of other professional librarians. Furthermore, all residents' work will be real and meaningful. The resident will not just be an observer, but will act as a full member of Evans Library's staff.
- All residents will administratively report to the Dean of Libraries or the Associate Dean of Libraries so that a thorough overview of progress can be guaranteed.
- All participants will receive assistance locating accommodations of residence in Melbourne.
- All residents will be put on a rotation schedule throughout the various library departments to achieve the most effective diversification of training and shared knowledge between residents and current library staff.

Applicant Qualifications

All *Librarian-in-Residence* applicants should possess the following qualifications:

- An MLS or a Ph.D. in library sciences or related fields.
- A minimum of ten years' experience with a progressive career in a large public, research, or academic library.
- Proficiency in the English language.
- High-level skill in technology-based library applications.
- Ability to teach and communicate well with others and an appreciation for various cultures.
- Capability to be agile, adaptive, and creative, reaching out for new knowledge and understanding.

Librarian-in-Residence Program Application Form

Personal Information

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Country: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____ Fax Phone: _____

Date and Place of Birth: _____

Country of Citizenship: _____

Country of Permanent Residence (if different from country of citizenship):

Professional Information

Position/Title/Rank: _____

Discipline: _____ Department: _____

Name of Institution or Organization: _____

Number and Street/Building: _____

City: _____

State: _____

ZIP Code: _____

Country: _____

Educational Background

Attach a curriculum vitae indicating major prior scholarship, awards, etc.

Degree: _____

Year: _____

Subject/Language Expertise

Focus of Research/Project: _____

English Language Expertise (check, as appropriate):

Reading: Excellent: _____ Fair: _____ Poor: _____

Writing: Excellent: _____ Fair: _____ Poor: _____

Speaking: Excellent: _____ Fair: _____ Poor: _____

How did you acquire competency in English?

Language(s) Expertise (check, as appropriate): _____

Reading: Excellent: _____ Fair: _____ Poor: _____

Writing: Excellent: _____ Fair: _____ Poor: _____

Speaking: Excellent: _____ Fair: _____ Poor: _____

How did you acquire competency in this language?

Project Proposal

Provide the following along with this application form and the curriculum vitae mentioned in the Educational Background section above:

- ❖ A one paragraph summary/abstract of your proposed research.
- ❖ A detailed project proposal, limited to no more than three, single-spaced pages.
- ❖ A bibliography that indicates works you have consulted for your project proposal.
- ❖ A one-paragraph summary of why Evans Library is an appropriate venue for your project. Please note that as a part of the application review process, Library staff specialists will have an opportunity to comment on this aspect.

References

Reference 1

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Reference 2

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Reference 3

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Other Information

Do you have any special needs regarding access or space requirements? Please explain:

How many days/months of residency do you seek in this fellowship program?

Would you accept less than your desired number? _____

Certification

I certify that the information given above is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: _____

Print name here: _____

Date: _____