Digital Preservation Archivist

Library Faculty Position, Atlanta Campus

Position and Responsibilities

Georgia State University is located in Atlanta, Georgia, one of the largest and most diverse cities in the Southeast. Georgia State is ranked the #3 Most Innovative University by U.S. News & World Report (2021), with one of the fastest growing research profiles in the country and a proven commitment to the success of students.

The Georgia State University Library welcomes to our Atlanta campus team an innovative, collegial, and service-oriented colleague to: develop policies and best practices to ensure long-term protection of and access to digital materials; collaborate on implementation of digital preservation workflows; and provide guidance on the strategies, tools, and processes for digital content preservation. The Digital Preservation Archivist will also have the opportunity to continue building and managing the Social Change Collection by cultivating new donors and working with existing donors.

We seek an archivist who is ready to provide leadership in our digital preservation efforts. The Digital Preservation Archivist will play a key role in advising the University community and external content creators on strategies for digital content preservation. This position will work collaboratively towards a preservation strategy for digital objects in the library’s collections, including 95,000 digitized and born-digital objects currently available in our digital collections.

The position serves as a member of the library faculty (non-tenure track), holds faculty rank, and is expected to participate in service, professional development, and scholarly activities as outlined in the University Library’s faculty guidelines. Funding for travel and professional development is available.

Environment

Georgia State University Library’s Special Collections and Archives collects and preserves unique and rare historical materials in selected subject areas. The department promotes the use of these materials by the Georgia State University community, scholars, and the public. Its goal is to advance scholarship and to further the educational, research, and service missions of the university.

The collection focus is on records of organizations or papers of individuals documenting the twentieth and twenty-first century American South. Subject strengths include the heritage of workers and their unions in the South and elsewhere, American popular music and culture, efforts to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment and the second wave of the women’s movement, women-centered and LGBTQ activist and advocacy activities in Georgia and the Southeast, and other social movements, especially in Georgia. The department also houses the Georgia State University Archives, consisting of records of University offices, deliberative bodies, and organizations, as well as resources on GSU history.

In addition to manuscripts and organizational records, many of the collections contain visual resources, sound recordings, and moving images. Special Collections and Archives houses millions of historical photographs documenting twentieth-century Atlanta and Georgia. Active oral history programs are a feature of many of the collections.

The University Library, Atlanta Campus, provides one of the most attractive, open, and inviting educational facilities in the Southeast. With approximately 1.5 million visitors each year, the Library is an...
integral part of the University community. The Library is a valued partner within the campus community, offering a modern, inviting, and centralized facility supporting both teaching and research with extensive collections and outstanding assistance. CURVE (curve.gsu.edu), located in Library South, brings together students and expert researchers from all disciplines in a shared, hands-on, interactive space featuring cutting-edge hardware and software for data visualization and analysis. For additional information about the Georgia State University Library, visit library.gsu.edu.

Georgia State University, an innovative urban public research university, is a national leader in graduating students from widely diverse backgrounds. Georgia State readies students for professional pursuits, educates future leaders, and prepares citizens for lifelong learning. Enrolling one of the most diverse student bodies in the nation at its downtown research campus, at its vibrant branch campuses, and online, the university provides educational opportunities for more than 54,000 students at the graduate, baccalaureate, associate and certificate levels. The university is committed to becoming a national leader in diversity, equity and inclusion in our society. For additional information about Georgia State University, visit gsu.edu.

Required Qualifications

- Master’s degree in Library and/or Information Science from an ALA-accredited program, or an advanced degree in a relevant subject area
- Knowledge of archival standards, best practices, and forensic methods for appraisal, acquisition, arrangement, and description of born-digital materials
- Knowledge of digital preservation issues, strategies, and standards
- Knowledge of accessioning, arranging, and describing born-digital archival material
- Knowledge of digital archival standards such as OAIS and Trusted Digital Repositories
- Excellent organizational skills and a demonstrated aptitude for analytical and detailed work
- Ability to work effectively with culturally diverse library users and colleagues
- Excellent communication and presentation skills

Preferred Qualifications

Preference will be given to applicants with one or more of the following:

- Digital Archives Specialist (DAS) certification
- Experience in digital preservation, digital libraries, and/or digital repositories
- Knowledge of digital preservation tools such as ArchiveIT, BitCurator, Archivematica, Preservica, Bagger, JHOVE
- Hands-on experience in using digital preservation systems in an enterprise-scale environment
- Familiarity with web archiving tools and methods
- Experience working with digital asset management software applications
- Understanding of the application of emulation technologies for digital preservation strategies
- Familiarity with markup languages, style sheets, and other XML-related technologies, using a command line interface and scripting
- Familiarity with large-scale storage systems
- Experience in donor relations
- Grant writing experience
Condition of Work and Benefits

Twelve-month assignment
Faculty rank and status
Non-tenure track
Health and retirement benefits
Support for research and professional activities

Salary and Rank

Commensurate with the candidate’s education and experience, 55,000 minimum salary for 12 months,
Appointment at faculty rank (Instructor/Assistant/Associate Professor) on a contract renewal basis.

Apply

Submit a cover letter addressing the above qualifications; resume; name, address and phone number of
three references, including immediate supervisor. Review of materials will begin immediately, with
complete applications received by November 15, 2020, receiving full consideration.

Send materials, pdf format preferred, to:

Human Resource Officer
University Library
liblao@gsu.edu
(404) 413-2700

All offers of employment at Georgia State University are contingent upon clear results of a thorough
background check.

Georgia State University is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate against applicants due to race,
ethnicity, gender, veteran status, or on the basis of disability or any other federal, state or local protected class.