Position Description: AI Research Librarian

Position Title: AI Research Librarian (Two Positions Available)
Reports to: Acting Associate University Librarian for Research and Technology, Director of Research Services
Department: Research Services, UC, Riverside Libraries
Institution: University of California, Riverside

Overview

Position Description
The University of California, Riverside Libraries seeks two dynamic and highly-skilled AI Research Librarians to join its cutting-edge Research Services team, focusing on supporting faculty and students across all disciplines in integrating AI tools and new 21st century research methodologies into academic research ecosystems and processes. These positions will serve as leaders in the evolving landscape of new technology enabled research in academic libraries, focusing on the intersection of AI, data, and scholarly research and new methodologies such as synthetic, systemic and synthetic reviews. The librarians will guide faculty and students in utilizing AI research tools and new research methodologies to enhance their research projects, ranging from workshopping deep meta-analysis to synthetic and systemic research techniques, across disciplines including STEM, Social Sciences, and Humanities. While candidates will support all disciplines, they may develop particular focus areas based on their expertise and/or degrees and departmental needs. The successful candidates will also play a critical role in supporting the data research lifecycle, contributing to the development of a robust scholarly research digital ecosystem. These roles will work closely with the Acting AUL/Director, a team of AI/Data scientists and other library support units, including GIS, Robotics, Makerspace Labs, teaching and learning department and specialized subject librarians. The ideal candidates will demonstrate expertise or a strong willingness to pursue continuous learning of new AI research tools and new LLM possibilities, and will work with faculty, students, and researchers on projects ranging from autonomous agents for research to multimodal AI workshops to push the boundaries of academic research and possibility.

Key Responsibilities

- **AI Research Tools Consultation and Teaching**: Provide consultation and training on advanced AI research tools and methodologies (e.g., LLMs, Reasoning AI models, Deep Research, Notebook LLM, Scholarcy, Tableau) to faculty, undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral researchers.
- **AI Tool Assessment and Curation**: Develop systematic evaluation criteria for emerging AI research tools, focusing on accuracy, reliability, data privacy, and academic integrity. Maintain a curated collection of vetted AI tools for different research needs and disciplines. Create and regularly update documentation on tool capabilities, limitations, and best practices for academic use.
- **Meta, Synthetic, and Systemic Analysis**: Assist researchers with meta-analysis, synthetic research methods, and systemic analysis across diverse disciplines. Support the integration of AI technologies into these complex research processes.
- **Research Lifecycle Support**: Work with faculty and students to guide them through the data research lifecycle, from planning and data collection to analysis, interpretation, visualization and dissemination. Focus on how AI tools can augment each stage of the research lifecycle and connect with other departmental AI partners (Research Data/AI scientists).

- **Scholarly Research Ecosystem**: Promote the use of AI tools within the broader context of the university and digital scholarly research ecosystem present in an academic research library, ensuring faculty and students have access to the most relevant tools and resources for their research.
- **Collaborative Work with Data Science Team**: Collaborate with AI/Data scientists and other members of the research services team on larger, interdisciplinary research projects.
- **AI and Library Resources Integration**: Help faculty and students on all levels including first generation students to post-Docs and wider community use AI tools in conjunction with library resources, including catalog searches, research databases, and digital archives.
- **Instruction and Programming**: Develop and deliver instructional research focused workshops, training sessions, and presentations on AI tools, data analysis techniques, and research methodologies. Provide specialized support to students and faculty in integrating AI into research, writing, and presentations.
- **Cross-disciplinary Support**: Tailor AI research support to various disciplines, including STEM, Social Sciences, and Humanities, ensuring that AI tools are applied effectively across fields.
- **Ethical and Responsible AI Use**: Guide students and faculty in the ethical use of AI in research, emphasizing transparency, academic integrity, and responsible use of generative AI tools. Develop frameworks for appropriate AI attribution in academic work, address concerns about AI bias in research tools, and ensure compliance with institutional policies on AI use in research and teaching. Partner with campus stakeholders to establish best practices for responsible AI integration in scholarly work.
- **Collaboration and Engagement**: Collaborate with library units such as GIS, Makerspace Labs, Medical Subject Librarians, and other subject-specific librarians to enhance the research experience for all disciplines.
- **Ongoing Professional Development**: Engage in continuous learning regarding the latest advancements in AI, machine learning, and research technologies, and apply these innovations to library services and research support.

Qualifications

Basic Qualifications (Required at Time of Application)

- A Master's degree in Library and Information Science (MLIS), a related other Masters degree, or equivalent extensive experience in AI tools or research technologies.
- Proven experience or demonstrated ability to quickly learn and apply AI tools for research, including literature review tools, research synthesis data analysis tools (e.g., Tableau), reasoning and best in class open source and proprietary LLMs and research presentation tools.
- Familiarity with the integration of AI tools into the research process, from literature review and data analysis to academic writing and presentation.
- Experience with or knowledge of AI-powered tools for meta-analysis, synthetic research, and systemic research methodologies.
- Excellent communication skills, including the ability to explain complex AI concepts and research methodologies to faculty, students, and colleagues from diverse backgrounds.
- Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment and engage with a wide range of stakeholders across campus.
- Demonstrated commitment to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in library services and academic support.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience working in academic research libraries, with a strong focus on research services.
- Familiarity with advanced AI tools like autonomous agents, multimodal AI, and generative AI in academic research contexts.
- Experience with research data management and digital scholarship workflows.
- Familiarity with research tools for Social Sciences, Humanities, or other specialized Research Impact Tools (i.e., Web of Science, Plum Analytics).
- Experience providing research support to faculty students from diverse and first-generation backgrounds.
- Familiarity with emerging trends in emerging academic research AI technologies and innovation in libraries.
- Basic Familiarity with Python, R, other GenAI Deep Learning Frameworks, Autonomous Agent Environments or Multimodal Applications
- Advanced Degrees (Ph.D. or Professional) in an academic research related discipline

Additional Information

- **Position Type**: Full-time, Permanent
- **Location**: On-campus in California with flexible schedule
- **Team Environment**: Work with a multidisciplinary technology-oriented department that includes two AI/Data scientists, GIS experts, and Makerspace Labs staff.
- **Professional Development**: Opportunities for ongoing training and development in the latest AI technologies and research methods.

Application Instructions

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, any AI related portfolio links and contact information for three references. In your cover letter, please include a description of your experience or interest in working with AI tools and supporting research across academic research university disciplines. Please also highlight any experience working with faculty and students in research-focused environments or higher education related roles.