Graduate Student Assistant – Indigenous Research Data Management & Sovereignty

Simon Fraser University Library invites applications from SFU graduate students for a part-time position to take place through the Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 terms. The work can be undertaken online, at WAC Bennett Library on the Burnaby campus, or a combination. This position is an excellent opportunity for a graduate student who seeks to gain experience working to support Indigenous research data protocols and sovereignty in a supportive environment and academic library setting.

Supervised by an Indigenous Initiatives Librarian, the graduate student will work with researchers and relevant library services teams to identify processes and best practices for Indigenous research data. The position will be attractive to adaptable and innovative individuals with excellent communication and collaborative skills, and a strong interest in Indigenous research and data services.

SETTING

SFU's three campuses are located on the territories of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Səl̓ílwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh), q̓íc̓əy̓ (Katzie), kʷikʷəƛ̓əm (Kwikwetlem), q̓ʷa: nƛ̓ən (Kwantlen), qiqéyt (Qayqayt), Səmyámə (Semiahmoo), and sc̓əwaθən (Tsawwassen) Nations. By recognizing the traditional Coast Salish territories, we aspire to create space for Reconciliation through dialogue and decolonizing practices.

Ranked by respected national surveys as one of Canada's top three comprehensive universities for the past 20 years, Simon Fraser University has also been consistently named one of British Columbia's Top Employers in recent years, as well as one of Canada's Top 100 employers, and one of Canada's top family-friendly employers. SFU offers more than 100 undergraduate major and joint major programs and more than 45 graduate offerings, spanning many disciplines in eight faculties, and has an international reputation for its innovative interdisciplinary and professional programs. The main, WAC Bennett Library is located on the Burnaby campus, while the Samuel and Frances Belzberg Library is on the Vancouver campus, and Fraser Library is at SFU Surrey.

The SFU Library is known for the development and implementation of innovative technology, leadership in Open Access, and excellent in-person and online user services. We serve an ethnically diverse student population, most of whom live off-campus and work part-time while attending university. SFU Library collaborates broadly with other institutions through membership in the Canadian Association of Research Libraries, the Association of Research Libraries, and regional consortia. For more information, see our web site at https://www.lib.sfu.ca.
The SFU Library commits to a continuous process of transformation to advance equity, diversity, and inclusion and to serve the cause of social justice. The Library's Statement on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion provides more information.

ASSIGNMENT

Under the direction of and in consultation with an Indigenous Initiatives Librarian:
- Conduct an environmental scan and identify mechanisms specific to working with data from Indigenous research projects
- Review OCAP® and identify examples of current applications of OCAP® for First Nations, Métis & Inuit Peoples' data
- Compile examples of Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) for consent when working with Indigenous community collaborations, research, and data
- Work with participating Indigenous researchers at SFU, members of the library's Digital Services, Data Services, and Indigenous Initiatives teams, and Research Computing to identify language and processes that should be considered when drafting MOU templates, providing for Indigenous access protocols and collective ownership of research data
- Share the outputs for consultation with:
  - the Data Services Team
  - Research Commons for graduate student research activity
  - the Media and Maker Commons for Indigenous audiovisual materials
  - the Indigenous Curriculum Resource Centre (ICRC) as a resource for researchers and instructors throughout the university
- Work with Indigenous Initiatives, Research Commons, Data Services, and other librarians to promote Indigenous research data management guidelines and best practices into existing suites of web-pages
- Present project work to relevant members of SFU Library and Community
- Advance the values and goals outlined in the Library's Strategic Plan
- Incorporate SFU Library's commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion

QUALIFICATIONS

Required:
- SFU graduate student with an interest in Indigenous research data management and sovereignty
- Familiarity with Indigenous research methodologies within an academic context
- Analytical reasoning and problem-solving skills
- Ability to take initiative,
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Ability to master information sources and technology thoroughly and quickly
- Ability to recognize, respect and work effectively with individuals and groups with diverse perspectives and backgrounds
- Excellent interpersonal and intercultural communication skills, both orally and written

Desired:
- Knowledge of the principles of OCAP® and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
- Experience working with Indigenous research data and Indigenous intellectual property

TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

The position is preferred to be part--time for Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 terms for up to 420 hours. Weekly schedules will be flexible. Rate of pay is $26.50 per hour, plus four per cent in lieu of vacation time.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however Canadians, permanent residents, and holders of valid work permits will be given priority. Simon Fraser University is committed to employment equity and encourages applications from qualified candidates of all genders, visible minorities, persons of First Nations, Inuit, or Métis heritage, persons with disabilities, and LGBTQ2SIA+ identified persons.

TO APPLY

Please send a cover letter and resume in one consolidated PDF to Jenna Walsh, Indigenous Initiatives Librarian, and Librarian for Indigenous Studies, Archaeology, Environmental Science, and Resource & Environmental Management at jmwalsh@sfu.ca by October 3, 2022 at 9:00 am Pacific Time.