Research Assistant position for the project Language and Discourse in the Copyright Act Review

Position and project overview
Jennifer Zerkee (Copyright Specialist, SFU) and Stephanie Savage (Scholarly Communications and Copyright Services Librarian, UBC) invite applications for a Research Assistant appointment for the project Language and Discourse in the Copyright Act Review. The RA will provide assistance with data entry, coding, analysis, and sharing out of project findings.

This position will begin on August 28, 2023 or as soon as possible, and will comprise approximately 70 hours to be completed by December 22, 2023. This work can be done remotely. The RA will report directly to Jennifer. This position is funded by an SFU/SSHRC Small Explore grant.

This ongoing project is investigating the 2017-2019 parliamentary review of Canada's Copyright Act and the recommendations for copyright amendments made by various types of stakeholders, as well as the work of the Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology (INDU) which undertook the review. Our primary focus is on areas relevant to higher education and libraries, with a specific focus on fair dealing. We have a particular interest in using our findings to support future advocacy for copyright and user rights in higher education and libraries.

Research Assistant responsibilities include:
- Coding and data entry
- Undertaking literature reviews
- Analyzing and summarizing data from INDU meeting transcripts and other sources
- Creating codebooks based on our coding of themes, committee question topics, and other relevant aspects of the data
- Supporting sharing of findings beyond the project team, including presentations and/or publication
- Supporting the development of advocacy recommendations and materials for the Canadian library and higher education communities
- Investigating data management and open data sharing options
- Maintaining research related records and databases, and following workflows
- Tracking time and progress on project tasks; reporting to project leads

Required qualifications and skills
- Currently enrolled in an LIS or equivalent program at a Canadian university, or a graduate program in a relevant discipline at SFU
- Ability to conduct basic quantitative analyses
- Demonstrated experience with academic research and/or writing
- Ability to work independently and productively, while coordinating with project leads
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Excellent organizational skills

Experience and skills that would be an asset:
- An interest in copyright law and its implementation in higher education and/or libraries
- Familiarity with, or coursework related to, Canada’s Copyright Act and/or copyright court cases
- Experience with qualitative analysis and with NVivo or similar software
- Familiarity or experience with political advocacy, policy development, and/or legislative review

Rate of pay, hours, and term
$26.50/hr (including vacation and statutory holiday pay; no medical or dental benefits included). This position will comprise approximately 70 hours, with a flexible schedule of 10 to 20 hours biweekly. The term of this position is approximately four months beginning August 28, 2023 or ASAP, with all hours to be completed by December 22, 2023.

Application instructions
Applicants should submit a cover letter addressing the qualifications, skills, and responsibilities described above and a resume/CV, combined into a single PDF attachment. Note: references will only be requested from short-listed applicants.


Please submit applications to:
Jennifer Zerkee
jstevens@sfu.ca

We appreciate all applications; however only short-listed applicants will be contacted.