

# STEM Librarian Search



Drake University's Cowles Library invites applications for a 12-month, tenure-track position as a STEM Librarian responsible for taking a leadership role in developing relationships between the Library and faculty in STEM disciplines. Reporting to the director of Library Instruction, the successful candidate will design and deliver a range of innovative instruction, Library programming, and services that facilitate the curricular and research needs of students and faculty in the STEM disciplines.

## Responsibilities

- **Promote Library services and collections** through outreach activities as liaison to the College of Arts and Sciences—working with faculty in the disciplines of biology, chemistry, environmental science, kinesiology, physics, and math and computer science—and the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences—working with faculty in undergraduate health sciences.
- **Develop and manage collections** in assigned STEM liaison areas, including selecting and withdrawing materials and participating in collaborative collection development decisions.
- **Develop and teach effective information literacy** instruction sessions, including a 3-credit-hour First Year Seminar course.
- **Engage with STEM faculty** and lab instructors to provide information literacy instruction in physical and life sciences courses.
- **Create and maintain online science-related instructional materials** and content for the Library's website.
- **Participate in assessment** of instruction in coordination with other instruction librarians.
- **Participate in library-wide planning and projects** through service on teams, committees, task forces, and special projects as assigned.
- **Engage in networking and professional development** through national, regional, and local professional organizations via office-holding, presentations, and publications.
- **Collaborate and seek connections** with the Greatness STEMs from lowans initiative (Drake serves as the state's south central STEM network hub) and the annual Drake University Conference on Undergraduate Research in the Sciences (DUCURS)—hosted by the Drake Undergraduate Science Collaborative Institute (DUSCI).
- **Participate in regular reference shift rotations**, including some evenings and weekends.

## Qualifications

### Required:

- Master of Library Science (M.L.S.) or equivalent from an ALA-accredited program
- An earned undergraduate or graduate degree in a life or natural sciences discipline OR two years of experience as an academic science librarian or science teacher in the past five years
- Ability to work collaboratively across departments; familiarity with current trends in STEM librarianship; demonstration of flexibility and initiative working in a rapidly changing environment

### Preferred:

- At least two years experience providing research and instructional services in an academic library
- Knowledge of online teaching pedagogies or other innovative instructional practices

## Library Overview

Cowles Library ([www.library.drake.edu](http://www.library.drake.edu)) is central to the mission of the institution, providing a comprehensive array of services that support research, study, and community. It is the largest private academic library in Iowa. Eleven faculty librarians and Library staff work with researchers and students at every stage of the research process and provide instruction in cutting-edge research methods. Librarians teach information literacy courses, First Year Seminars, and January-Term classes, and also offer specialized courses that focus on effective research, information literacy, and critical thinking skills.

*Cowles Library will be the hub for learning and scholarship at Drake University.*

—Strategic Plan, 2015



The Library maintains a Library Liaison program that supports faculty input and collaboration on the development of Library resources and services. The Library holdings include 400,000+ print book volumes, 900+ print journal subscriptions, 130,000+ electronic journal titles, 153,000+ electronic books (owned and subscribed to), 173,000+ PDA electronic books (not owned but available by request), and more than 200 electronic databases. The Library sustains a collection development budget of \$1.5 million, with the quality and scope of the Library's electronic resources a distinguishing feature of the Drake learning experience.

The Library maintains a state-of-the-art access and discovery system, and a comprehensive website. The Library is currently in the process of migrating to the Ex Libris/Alma integrated library system.

The migration is being conducted in concert with a group of academic library partners in Iowa, with shared services planned as the next phase of systems development.



Cowles Library spearheads statewide initiatives for collaboration and collection development with scholarly resources, technology, and engagement with other libraries. In particular, Cowles is a founding member of Central Iowa Collaborative Collections Initiative (CI-CCI), as well as a member of the Iowa Private Academic Libraries (IPAL) and the Iowa Academic Library Alliance.

Open and staffed 108 hours per week, with a special study area is open 24/7, the Library provides spaces that include quiet study areas, study rooms, group study space, computer collaboration equipment, whiteboards, and a popular campus cafe. An after-hours area in the Library is open for study when the Library itself is closed. The Library has the largest general-purpose computer lab on campus, with 45 Mac and Windows computers. The Library collaborates with other departments to provide direct skills support through the Writing Workshop and the Speaking Center, as well as tutoring in courses such as biology, chemistry, organic chemistry and psychology, and assistance with time management and study skills through Academic Achievement. The Speaking Studio also allows students to practice and record presentations and speeches.

Drake University Archives and Special Collections provides the opportunity for students and researchers to engage in primary research on topics related to government, law, politics, and cultural concerns through several notable collections, including the Political Papers Collection and the new Iowa Caucus Collection. This unit also provides internships and student work experiences related to museum and archival practice and the opportunity to work on digitization and digital projects.

Cowles Library is at the forefront of innovative library services as evidenced by the new programs and initiatives recently instituted. Within the past year, the Library has supported and filled librarian positions specializing in business and data analytics (the latter meeting evolving curricular needs at the University, specifically by enhancing data literacy on campus, including the discovery, management, and curation of data for both students and faculty). The creation of the STEM librarian position is another example of continuing this tradition of innovatively meeting student and faculty needs and aligning with the Drake University mission.



## Science and the Library

Since 2007 an embedded Pharmacy & Science Librarian has worked closely with the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, teaching in the PharmD curriculum in the Pharmacy Skills and Applications (PSA) program and teaching drug information searching and retrieval skills. In collaboration with PSA faculty, the Librarian helps build research skills that enable students to critically evaluate print and electronic sources, understand the organization and structure of health information, and search the medical databases to find correct information.

Following this model, the STEM Librarian will take a more embedded approach to teaching scientific information literacy skills to science students, seeking out new and innovative ways to engage science faculty and to address unmet undergraduate scientific information literacy needs at Drake University.



### **DRAKE UNIVERSITY AT A GLANCE**

Institution: Private

#### Enrollment

Undergraduate: 3,300

Graduate, Law, part-time: 1,700

Majors, Minors, Concentrations: 70

Graduate, Professional Programs: 23

#### Accomplishment Rates\*:

Undergraduate: 98.3%

Graduate, Law, part-time: 99.1%

Full-time Faculty: 279

Full-time Staff: 642

Tuition: \$33,550

Students Receiving Financial

Assistance: 98%

Endowment: \$187M

*U.S. News & World Report* Ranking:

#3, Midwest

Athletics: NCAA Division I, Missouri Valley Conference

## The Program

A midsize, private university in Iowa's capital city, Drake offers more than 70 majors, minors, and concentrations, and 23 graduate and professional degrees through six colleges and schools.

The foundation for undergraduate education is the Drake Curriculum, designed to expose students to a wide range of ideas and ensure a balanced academic experience. By choosing among many options, every student journeys along a learning path that is uniquely his or hers.

New undergraduates begin with a First Year Seminar—a small discussion-based class that brings together students from the same residence building to explore an intriguing topic while acclimating to an academic culture.

As undergraduates fulfill coursework toward one or more majors and minors, they also make discoveries in one or more Areas of Inquiry—from art to history, from critical thinking to quantitative literacy, from human evolutionary psychology to tropical ecology.

The senior capstone is an opportunity for students to combine the knowledge and skills developed over three years of college experience in a single significant project—an internship, fieldwork experience, independent research, or special seminar.

The Drake experience is also characterized by close relationships among faculty, staff, and students, and an emphasis on ethics and developing reflective practitioners of their disciplines.

Recognizing that graduates will live and work in a globally interconnected society and economy, Drake prepares students to face transnational challenges and thrive in a multicultural environment. Study abroad



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### MISSION STATEMENT

Drake's mission is to provide an exceptional learning environment that prepares students for meaningful personal lives, professional accomplishments, and responsible global citizenship. The Drake experience is distinguished by collaborative learning among students, faculty, and staff and the integration of the liberal arts and sciences with professional preparation.

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### INFLUENTIAL RESEARCH AND OUTREACH CENTERS

The Center for the Humanities  
The Buchanan Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership  
The Constitutional Law Center  
The Harkin Institute for Public Policy and Citizen Engagement  
The Kelly Continuing Education Programs  
The Law School's Legislative Practice Center  
The Pappajohn Center for Entrepreneurship Outreach  
The Principal Financial Group Center for Global Citizenship  
The School of Education's National Rehabilitation Institute  
The Slay Fund for Social Justice  
The Robert D. and Billie Ray Center  
The Rolland and Mary Nelson Institute for Diplomacy and International Affairs  
Agricultural Law Center  
Intellectual Property Law Center  
Neal & Bea Smith Legal Clinic  
Middleton Center for Children's Rights  
E.T. Meredith Center for Magazine Studies

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## ACADEMIC UNITS

College of Arts and Sciences

College of Business and Public Administration

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Law School

School of Education

School of Journalism and Mass  
Communication

Cowles Library



opportunities are vast and diverse, with more than 200 experiences in over 70 countries expanding students' perspectives for a summer, a semester, a full year, or during the three-week January Term. In addition, Drake hosts roughly 300 students from 50 countries and 10–15 international scholars on an annual basis. Partnerships with strategic international institutions allow for diverse student, faculty, and staff engagement and programming.

The Principal Financial Group Center for Global Citizenship brings recognized speakers to campus and sponsors significant learning experiences focused on international affairs. The World Languages and Cultures program combines classroom time with small group conversation to build proficiency in not just speaking but understanding a language. These experiences combine to infuse global perspectives and learning into the student academic and social experience (both on-campus and abroad) in order to deepen intercultural engagement and to meet the needs of 21st-century learners.

The University's graduate programs emphasize collaboration and relevant skill building in a learning environment where students learn both from faculty with experience practicing what they teach and from peers who come from a variety of industries, job levels, and backgrounds. Programs span a wide range of areas—including Doctor of Pharmacy, Doctor of Jurisprudence, Doctor of Education, Doctor of Philosophy in Education, and joint degrees—and all emphasize practical applications and problem-solving strategies and allow students to focus on individual interests, needs, credentials, and career goals.

Drake is uniquely positioned to combine forces with the metropolitan area's private and public sectors to better serve the community through professional development opportunities. Graduate degree programs ranging from teacher effectiveness to public administration to financial management help businesses and organizations strengthen the region's workforce and develop critical leadership pipelines.

## The People

Nearly 6,000 students applied for approximately 850 places in the Fall 2015 entering first-year class. The average admitted student has an ACT score of 27 and a GPA of 3.71. Approximately 75 percent of first-year students are in the top 25 percent of their graduating high school class.

The University currently enrolls more than 3,300 undergraduates and 1,700 graduate, law, and part-time students from 40 states and 45 countries. More than 160 student organizations tap into interests from politics to music to the outdoors. The 18 national social fraternities and sororities provide another way for students to build community at Drake.

Of Drake's 279 full-time professors and instructors, 87 percent hold the highest degrees in their field. With an overall student-faculty ratio of 13-to-1, all are focused on student success. The faculty stand out not only as dedicated teachers but also as accomplished researchers—experts in their fields doing important work on current issues.

There are more than 70,000 Drake alumni worldwide. Reflecting the University's emphasis on leadership and its impressive accomplishment rates for both bachelor and graduate degree recipients, Drake alumni can be found in positions of influence in business, the arts, education, law and politics, health care, and in their communities.

Commitment to community is part of the Drake ethos. The student service-learning program that was formalized in 2011 has now become one of the cornerstones of the Drake experience. Before they graduate, some 80 percent of students in all fields learn by contributing professional services to nonprofits, schools, associations, or government offices in Des Moines and around the world. Nearly 80 percent of Drake faculty and staff volunteer in the local community. Thousands of Drake alumni volunteer in their communities each year, including those in 18 different cities across the country who donate their time and talent to serve those in need on DU Good Day.

## The Place

Drake University's campus is situated on approximately 150 acres two miles from the city center. Residence halls are connected to academic and administrative buildings and athletic facilities by open green space, a planted prairie, outdoor art, a reflecting pool, and pedestrian plazas and walkways. The Arbor Day Foundation has recognized Drake's efforts to foster a healthy urban forest, awarding the University a Tree Campus USA designation. The perimeter of campus is defined by diverse businesses and destinations—retail shops, coffee houses, restaurants, even an independent cinema mecca, the Varsity Theater.

Recent capital projects have invested more than \$100 million in new landscaped gateways, residence hall upgrades, improved and new lab space, a renovated 200-seat theater, new collaborative and after-hours space, the 6,000-square-foot University Archives (providing research opportunities and access to significant collections), and a new state-of-the-art basketball practice facility.

A bold, forward-thinking strategy recently launched multi-phase development of an interconnected science, technology, education, and math complex. STEM@DRAKE—with its 'E' for education—includes a distinctive interdisciplinary vision, one that places future scientists and future educators together in a synergistic learning environment. Ultimately encompassing six buildings on campus—including two new buildings for various programs in the sciences and the School of Education—this hub of exploration will pair leading-edge technologies with innovative spaces for collaborative study, research, and experimentation. Another part of this initiative is new programming: In response to career trends and employer demands, Drake has or is preparing to launch programs in data analytics, kinesiology, occupational therapy, and athletic training.

Renowned for extraordinary athletic feats in track and field, Drake is home to the celebrated Blue Oval and each year hosts the Drake Relays, regarded as one of the top events of its kind in the United States. Also in Drake Stadium, the Bulldogs play in the Pioneer Football League on the Johnny Bright Field. A number of other athletics facilities play home to the Bulldogs, including The Knapp Center, where they compete in NCAA Division I as members of the Missouri Valley Conference.

Campus conveniences are valued, but perhaps more significant are the powerful ways in which the city of Des Moines enriches learning, connections, and experiences at Drake. With a multitude of businesses and nonprofits just minutes from campus, Drake can provide exceptional opportunities for students to work, play, explore, and put what they're learning into practice.

Des Moines is a national hub for insurance, publishing, and politics; the nexus of Iowa's state government; the headquarters of industry giants (Principal Financial Group, Meredith Corporation, DuPont Pioneer, and more); and the front-row seat of democracy every four years during Iowa's first-in-the-nation caucuses.

More than 92 percent of Drake students graduate having had one or more internship, practical, or field experiences. Drake's rigorous academic programs complement Des Moines' professional opportunities, and students benefit from a central Iowa alumni network of more than 19,000 Drake graduates—many of whom lead businesses and are eager to hire Drake students.

A dynamic metropolitan area holds attractive quality-of-life options for not only students but also faculty and staff. From a diverse live music, theater, and arts scene to sports, cultural festivals, farmers markets, shopping, and outdoor trails, Des Moines offers plenty of options for entertainment and play.



### LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Des Moines has garnered much national media attention in recent years.

#1 Metro with the Most Community Pride  
(Gallup, 2015)

#2 Best Cities for Jobs in 2015  
(Forbes, 2015)

#1 Wealthiest City in America  
(TODAY show, 2014)

#1 Best Medium-Sized Metro Area for Homeownership  
(Nerdwallet, 2014)

#1 Best Places for Business and Careers  
(Forbes, 2013)

#2 Strongest Local Economy (Policom, 2013)

#3 Top 15 U.S. Cities' Emerging Downtowns  
(Forbes, 2013)

#1 Best Midwest Cities for Young Adults  
(The Business Journals, 2013)

#2 Best Cities to Start a Business  
(The Street, 2013)

Visit [www.drake.edu/about/drakedesmoines](http://www.drake.edu/about/drakedesmoines) to explore further.