

## ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The University of Alabama at Birmingham seeks a dynamic and innovative leader for the newly restructured Special Collections department of the UAB Libraries. The UAB Libraries organization was created in 2014 with the merger of the University's Mervyn H. Sterne Library and Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences under the leadership of an inaugural Dean of Libraries.

The Special Collections department includes three faculty and three paraprofessional staff plus student workers housed within several library facilities: the UAB Historical Collections, comprised of the Reynolds-Finley Historical Library, the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences, and the UAB Archives, are in the Lister Hill Building, and the Sterne Rare Book collection is housed in a recently acquired annex facility at the edge of campus. The department manages a long-standing history of the health sciences lecture series as well as research fellowships, both bringing noted scholars and researchers to the UAB campus over the course of the academic year. Support for these initiatives comes from a long-tenured friends group comprised of individuals from across the academic health center and the community.

The Special Collections department includes:

- A history of medicine library with rare books and texts dating from the 14<sup>th</sup> through the early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries
- Specialized collections of published material from the 18<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup> century
- The official archival repository for the university that documents all areas of campus which also includes a wide-range of manuscript collections in the health sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities
- A major museum collection of artifacts, equipment and apparatus documenting the history of medicine, in all the health science professional fields

Acquisitions in all areas are active and ongoing.

The successful candidate will report directly to the Dean of Libraries. The new Associate Dean for Special Collections will be a member of the library's faculty and will participate in administrative and strategic planning for the UAB Libraries as part of the dean's cabinet and administrative council. The ADSC will consolidate, expand and guide the merged department into the future. Major responsibilities for the ADSC position are the management and implementation of the department's outreach, programming, and donor relations. The ADSC will advance the acquisition of new material via donation or purchase. The ADSC will also coordinate the department's activities with other library departments, such as technical services and reference. The ADSC oversees department content on the UAB Digital Collections. A non-tenure track faculty appointment with commensurate salary will be granted at a rank based upon the candidate's experience and background.

Requirements: An MLS or MLIS from an ALA accredited institution; progressively responsible leadership experience in a special or historical collections library, museum, or archives; a record of accomplishment in scholarly publishing, presentations, and professional service to meet faculty qualifications; experience with a friends group or external campus advisory committee and the management of directed endowment accounts; exceptional written and oral communication skills.

Thanks to exceptional financial support from the University and its donors, as well as a well-trained and highly dedicated staff, the University of Alabama Libraries has continued to increase in its rankings among members of the Association of Research Libraries. In addition to the ARL, University Libraries is a member of the Council on Library and Information Resources, the Center for Research Libraries, the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries, the Coalition for Networked Information, the HathiTrust, the SEC Libraries Group, the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries and Project Bamboo.

Preferred Qualifications:

- An advanced degree in history or another relevant subject field
- Experience in a collection with a strong health science component
- Experience providing outreach to academic and scholarly communities
- Proven ability to maintain relationships with donors
- Experience in grant writing, fundraising, and event planning
- Teaching experience at the university level
- Knowledge and experience in the maintenance and preservation of library, archival, and museum collections, both physical and digital collections
- Demonstrated understanding of the application of technology in the service of special collections
- Experience with digitization projects and the management of digital resources

Interested applicants, please visit this link to apply: <http://uab.peopleadmin.com/postings/2874>.

*UAB is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer committed to fostering a diverse, equitable and family-friendly environment in which all faculty and staff can excel and achieve work/life balance irrespective of race, national origin, age, genetic or family medical history, gender, faith, gender identity and expression as well as sexual orientation. UAB also encourages applications from individuals with disabilities and veterans. A pre-employment background check investigation is performed on candidates selected for employment.*