

Academic Librarianship

Tips to prepare for a competitive job market in academic librarianship.

Things to Know

- Networking is key! Most academic librarians and library leaders know one and other in Oklahoma. Being a recognizable candidate will work in your favor.
- Academia is extremely competitive. Staying on top of field trends and adaptability will be important.
- Tenure versus staff positions will have different expectations. Be familiar with the differences as you are considering these positions.
- Current field trends:
- Open Access/Open Educational Resources
- Patron-first approaches in design and organization (UX)
- Data and data mining
- Library roles in patron and data privacy

Things to Do

- Join a professional association whose values you align with and get involved.
- ALA/OLA (joint membership discount for students)
- OK-ACRL (free membership, affordable conferences)
- Mountain Plains Library Association
- Stay on top of field trends. You don't have to be an expert in everything, but you should always be aware of what is happening.
- Find and develop a specialty interest to grow:
- Technical Services
- Open Access
- Research/Research Data Management
- Subject Librarianship

Things to Prepare

- A LinkedIn Profile
- A Curriculum Vitae (CV) and a Resume
- Examples of the type of work that you would like to do
- For those seeking tenure positions or looking to stand out:
- A web portfolio of presentations and projects
- An ORCID
- A Research Gate Profile

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