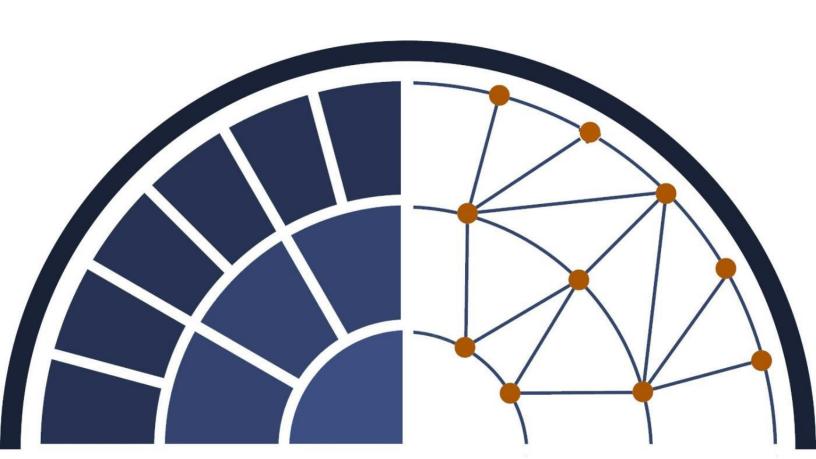UNIVERSITY
of VIRGINIA

Faculty Director of the Digital Humanities Center and Associate Professor/Professor of Environmental Humanities

Position Description

The Opportunity

The College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences at the University of Virginia (UVA) and the UVA Library seek a tenured faculty member to serve as the Faculty Director of the Library Digital Humanities Center (DHC) and contribute to the field of environmental humanities. Scholars whose research is related to any area of the environmental humanities and whose experience prepares them for dynamic and collaborative leadership as Faculty Director of the Library Digital Humanities Center are encouraged to apply. The successful applicant will be appointed at the rank of Associate or Full Professor, commensurate with their research profile, and will have a tenure home in a department of the humanities or social sciences appropriate to their disciplinary training. The position is expected to begin August 10, 2025.

The UVA Library Digital Humanities Center comprises the Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities (IATH) and the Scholars' Lab, and serves practitioners in digital humanities across the University community. Housed in the beautifully renovated, state-of-the-art Edgar Shannon Library, the DHC supports development and implementation of interdisciplinary digital research and pedagogical projects. The Faculty Director will provide intellectual leadership, help identify new strategic initiatives to strengthen DH research, and enhance collaboration across the DH ecosystem at UVA, which includes the School of Data Science, Digital Humanities Initiative, the Center for Digital Editing, the Digital Design Labs at the School of Architecture, and the Karsh Institute Digital Technology for Democracy Lab.

The successful candidate will join an interdisciplinary network of scholars in environmental humanities. They will direct the DHC for an initial contract period of five years, with the possibility of renewal. Because of this administrative duty, the teaching load for this position is reduced to 1/1 in the period that those administrative responsibilities are undertaken. On completion of the administrative assignment, the teaching load will revert to the standard 2/2, with all teaching in the home Arts & Sciences department.

Responsibilities

This position is responsible for the intellectual vision and strategic direction for the DHC. Working with leaders of the Scholars' Lab and IATH, as well as stakeholders around the university, the Faculty Director helps shape Library DH services and programming to best support UVA teaching and research; pursue funding to expand DHC programs; cultivate strong relationships across the DH ecosystem at UVA; and seek collaborations and engagement in DH nationally or internationally.

The University Library and the College of Arts and Sciences are committed to the future success and sustainability of DH at UVA. The successful candidate's direct reporting line will be to the chair of their home department in the College of Arts and Sciences. In order to coordinate and support strategic initiatives with an impact on faculty and student research and teaching, the appointment as DHC Faculty Director will have a dotted reporting line to the Associate Dean of Arts & Humanities in the College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences. The Faculty Director will likewise assume a dotted reporting line to the Associate University Librarian for Research and Learning Services, whose portfolio includes the Library's digital humanities services. Meanwhile, the directors of the Scholars Lab and IATH, who hold administrative and budgetary responsibility for their programs and report directly to the Associate University Librarian for Research and Learning Services, will have a dotted reporting line to the DHC Director.

Qualifications

- PhD in a relevant field
- A record of innovative and collaborative DH research, including familiarity with multiple DH methods and practices
- Potential to contribute to teaching and research in environmental humanities, broadly construed
- Administrative excellence, including demonstrated ability to work effectively in a team-based environment with faculty, staff, and students

About
The University of Virginia

Mission

The University of Virginia is a public institution of higher learning guided by a founding vision of discovery, innovation, and development of the full potential of talented students from all walks of life. It serves the Commonwealth of Virginia, the nation, and the world by developing responsible citizen leaders and professionals; advancing, preserving, and disseminating knowledge; and providing world–class patient care.

We are defined by:
- Our enduring commitment to a vibrant and unique residential learning environment marked by the free and collegial exchange of ideas;
- Our unwavering support of a collaborative, diverse community bound together by distinctive foundational values of honor, integrity, trust, and respect; and
- Our universal dedication to excellence and affordable access.

Strategic Plan

In January of 1819, the Commonwealth of Virginia's General Assembly chartered what would become the University of Virginia. For two hundred years, the University has served Virginia, the nation, and the world by educating responsible citizen–leaders; advancing, preserving, and disseminating knowledge; and providing world–class patient care. These responsibilities are enduring and will continue to inspire our efforts.

Building on this history, our aim is to be the best public university in 2030, and one of the very best in the world, whether public or private. We believe that the way to achieve this goal is by being both great and good, as described in the vision statement. The goals described in this document constitute our concrete definition of what we mean by a great and good university. The initiatives represent *some* of the efforts we will make to achieve our goals.

With those thoughts in mind, we hope you are excited and inspired by what follows. You can read The 2030 Plan at https://strategicplan.virginia.edu/.

The College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences (A&S)

The College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences (GSAS) remains the historical and intellectual foundation of the University of Virginia.

The largest of UVA's 12 schools, A&S offers more than 50 undergraduate degrees and concentrations and 29 graduate degree programs. It educates 70% of all of the University's undergraduate students (conferring upwards of 2,500 degrees each year), trains a quarter of the graduate students, appoints 60% of the tenure-track faculty and houses the core disciplines upon which UVA's academic reputation is built.

Consistent with UVA's 2030 plan, GSAS has defined four strategic priorities to build on the unique strengths and advance the distinctive mission of the college.

- Deliver an undergraduate experience second to none
- Transform GSAS by focusing on graduate excellence and the resources to support it
- Recruit, advance, and re-recruit extraordinary talent
- Develop and implement a strategic research plan for A&S and fuel academic innovation

To read more about the four GSAS priorities and signal intention, please visit https://as.virginia.edu/2030-four-priorities.

The UVA Library

The University of Virginia was conceived with a library at its heart, placed in the Rotunda at the head of the Academical Village. The Library's first collection was selected by Thomas Jefferson and arranged according to a classification scheme he adapted from Francis Bacon's *The Advancement of Learning*. Today, the Library's original purpose remains unchanged: to provide access to accumulated knowledge, and in so doing, increase it — in short, to advance learning. In pursuit of that goal, we collect, preserve, organize, and share [materials of all kinds](#).

The Library's staff, services, and resources are here to ensure that the University community has the information it needs for teaching, research, and personal enjoyment and enrichment.

The UVA Library opened the renovated and renamed Edgar Shannon Library in January, 2024. The beautifully renovated building brings the library up to current standards of safety, accessibility, and service. A new entrance makes the building easily reachable from the growing northern corridor along University Avenue, and a larger south entrance makes the space easier to access from Grounds. The building offers better layout and natural light, including in two new study courts, for members of the University community as they study, research, and socialize. Improved wayfinding (using signage and other design elements) makes the building more intuitive for visitors, and better facilities support the ongoing conservation and preservation of the Library's large and growing print collection.

Finally, much-loved features such as the McGregor ("Harry Potter") Room remain — they've been renovated and optimized for comfort and character, preserving the essential elements of their unique identity. Learn more about the renovation at [The Edgar Shannon Library | UVA Library](#).

Nomination & Application Process

Compensation

Salary will be competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

How to Apply

Jeremy Duff & Lauren McCaghren with Greenwood Asher & Associates® is assisting The University of Virginia (UVA) in this search. Applications and nominations are now being accepted. Inquiries, nominations, and application materials should be directed to Greenwood Asher & Associates. Application materials should include:

> ⟩ Cover letter of interest that includes a summary of your research plans, your administrative experience, your teaching interests and experience.
> ⟩ A curriculum vitae

We strongly encourage submitting application materials as PDF attachments. The search will be conducted with a commitment of confidentiality for candidates until finalists are selected. Review of applications is expected to begin on January 15, 2025 and will continue until the position is filled. For full consideration, applications should be received by January 15, 2025. UVA will only consider complete applications. The university will perform background checks on all new hires prior to employment.

Please direct inquiries, nominations, and application materials to:

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Lauren McCaghren, laurenmccaghren@greenwoodsearch.com

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