The Assistant Director for Digital Engagement and Discovery (1.0 FTE; 3-year grant-funded) coordinates all digital initiatives at the Library and works with the Director/Librarian and Associate Librarian in developing strategies for online engagement. Having keen interest in and deep knowledge of emerging technological trends in special collections libraries and/or the humanities, the Assistant Director works to build an integrated digital presence to advance the Library’s mission.

The Assistant Director will shape future engagement with the world-renowned research collection of the John Carter Brown Library by approaching the Library’s digital presence with an emphasis on experimentation. The Library, through this position, seeks to create an online platform through which scholars and curators can connect and contribute additional information about digital objects and collections. Working with the Associate Director for Communications and Program Development (to be hired), the Assistant Director will support a coordinated social media strategy ensuring that all potential constituents are familiar with the library and its holdings. The Library’s materials include Latin American, European, and North American books, maps, prints, and manuscript collections from the colonial period in the Americas. Potential constituencies include populations totaling in excess of one billion people.

Significant portions of the collection have already been digitized, an effort that continues apace, and the Library has made a commitment to guarantee that all digitized materials are made available for free through a Creative Commons license. The Assistant Director will build upon this legacy by establishing and coordinating new directions in online engagement with digital historical resources while continuing to realize the goal of digitizing the entire collection.

Qualifications

- Evidence of experience in evaluating, integrating and implementing various digital media platforms
- Clear understanding of current issues and research in digital scholarship and new forms of publishing
- Reputation for experimentation; willingness to push the envelope
- Significant experience using digital platforms (e.g., Fedora, Omeka, etc.)
- Ability to work with multiple constituencies in managing projects
- Excellent communication skills, with successful evidence of communicating with funding agencies preferred
- Advanced degree (MA, Ph.D.) or equivalent experience in field related to the Library’s mission desirable, but not essential
- Familiarity with project management applications
POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT: Assistant Director for Digital Engagement & Discovery

About the Library

The John Carter Brown Library is one of the leading institutions of its kind in the world. An independent research library established in 1846 and located since 1904 on the campus of Brown University, it is renowned for its collection of books, maps, and manuscripts related to the history of the Americas from the arrival of Europeans c. 1492 to the independence movements of the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries. It also houses a highly regarded fellowship program that attracts between 30 and 40 scholars from around the world each year; an ever-expanding digitization program, with ambitions to become even better connected to today’s dynamic environment of digital scholarship; a world-class curatorial staff, with professional expertise in the fields the library serves; cutting-edge academic programming; and an intimate and elegant research environment that is the envy of its peers.

To Apply

To apply, please send a formal application via e-mail to jcb-director@brown.edu and reference the Assistant Director for Digital Engagement & Discovery position. Documents should include cover letter, resume, and the names and e-mail addresses of three references. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

Applications can also be sent via regular mail to:

The John Carter Brown Library
Assistant Director for Digital Engagement & Discovery Search Committee
Box 1894
Providence, RI 02912