To

Dr.K.P.Singh  
The Joint Secretary  
University Grants Commission  
New Delhi-110 002.  
Kpsingh_ugc@nic.in

Sir,

Sub: Submission of suggestions to include essential qualifications for the College Librarian/ University Assistant Librarian, Deputy Librarian and University Librarian in the Draft Regulations titled UGC (Approval of Colleges offering Technical and Professional Education by Universities) Regulation 2013.

Ref:F.No.14-9/2013(CPP-II) dt.23-12-2013 from the Joint Secretary, UGC.

Greetings from Society for the Advancement of Library and Information Science (SALIS) is a registered National professional body which consist of more than 1100 members of library science professionals and academics across the country. A large number of our members are working in the Self-Financing Engineering colleges, technical universities and deemed to be universities. Most of them are under paid and compelled to work more than prescribed working hours and compelled to work irrelevant to the library. On behalf of our members, we bring to your kind notice to the following anomalies through this representation to the UGC for the appropriate actions.

The Joint Secretary, University Grants Commission, New Delhi has invited suggestions/comments from the stakeholders on Draft Regulations titled UGC (Approval of Colleges offering Technical and Professional Education by Universities) Regulation 2013.
The Draft Regulation provides detailed information in respect of essential qualification and experience etc, for the posts of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professor in Appendix 8 under the heading Faculty Cadre and Qualification. It is surprise to see that no such qualification and experience required for the College Librarian/ University Assistant Librarian, Deputy Librarian and University Librarian in the Technical Institutions have been prescribed in the Draft Regulations 2013.

Under the circumstance explained, the following are humbly submitted to include in the UGC Regulations 2013 for the benefits Library Science Professionals community working the Technical Institutions as in the UGC Regulation 2010 & 2011.

1. The essential qualifications and experience prescribed for the posts of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professor may please be extended to the Assistant Librarian/College Librarian, Deputy Librarian and University Librarian in technical institutions.

2. The University Inspection Committee is constituted to visit and inspect the Colleges/ Institutions in respect of whether the rules and regulations are promptly followed in admission of the students for the various UG/PG programmes, Infrastructure facilities, appointment of faculty members, librarians and books/journals available in the libraries. But, in practice, many of the committees are not included the library professionals in the Inspection Committee. It is unjustified that without any library professionals, how a committee can inspect the library and its services rendered to the user communities.

3. When inspection committee is constituted, any of the experienced senior Assistant Librarian/College Librarian/Deputy Librarian and University Librarian should be an expert member of the committee specifically to inspect the library infrastructures. It will help the university to assess the library faculties available in the institutions.

4. Staff strength of the library should be based on the number of collection, student and faculty strength.

5. Working condition of college librarians, university Assistant Librarians, University Deputy Librarians and University Librarians are to be streamlined and they should be deputed to attend necessary continuous professional development programmes such as seminars, conference, Refresher courses etc.
6. The Qualification and pay structure for college librarians/University Assistant librarians, University Deputy librarians and University librarians should be on par with UGC main regulation 2010 & 2011.

7. It is relevant to state that various existing Universities and State Higher Education acts such as Tamil Nadu Private Colleges regulations Act, Madras University Act, Bombay University Act etc are categorizing the post of librarian as a teaching category. Hence, the proposed UGC regulation may shall consider College Librarians/University Asst.Librarians, Deputy Librarians and University Librarians as teaching category.

Therefore, it is requested that the above suggestions/comments mentioned above may please be considered positively to include in the UGC Regulations 2013.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Dr. S.Swaminathan

General Secretary-SALIS