



Library Technician Evelyn Pagán, International Institute of Tropical Forestry (IITF) Library Director Yariliz R. Quiles-Martínez, and Library Volunteer Sylvia Zavala in front of the IITF Library.



Career Spotlight

Forest Service
Career Pathways



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Librarians are trained information professionals who guide patrons through the research process.

Yariliz R. Quiles-Martínez
Library Branch Director
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Which of your talents or skills contributes most to your work and why? Be passionate about learning, teaching, and serving. Critical thinking, empathy, creativity, and curiosity are skills that I use to make information resources accessible and help people find the information they need.

What is a challenge you have encountered in your position? Most people think of libraries as buildings, but many of our patrons work far away from the library in forests and offices. One of the biggest challenges I face is helping people across the agency understand how we can support them, even in a virtual environment.

What is an example of technology or equipment that you use in your work? Librarians use computers to access databases and find information to meet our users' needs. Sometimes we work with library management software to create and manage print and digital collections. In addition, we use specialized equipment and software to digitize historical maps, photographs, and reports.

What has been your most exciting project? While the library staff were reorganizing historical maps of Puerto Rico's State forests, we researched their historical context, created an exhibit, and coordinated a discussion panel with experts. It was exciting because our patrons rediscovered part of our collections through the activity.

When did you know this career would be a good fit for you? After a decade as an academic librarian, I transitioned to the Forest Service, where I discovered the joy of supporting diverse professionals united by a common mission: conserving our forests and grasslands. This experience confirmed that this agency is the ideal place for me to continue my career.

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