

M25 Consortium Newsletter September 2021

M25 Consortium Directors List <LIS-M25DIRS@JISCMail.AC.UK>

on behalf of

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One of the strengths of the Consortium (and delights for me) is that its membership includes both scholarly/specialist libraries and HE libraries. I have spent many fascinating afternoons over the years on cpd25 visits to specialist libraries, learning about their collections and the unique challenges that they often face. Widening my understanding of libraries different from my own; but also understanding the common elements for us all, has helped my professional development.

This year we have a particular focus on the needs of scholarly and specialist libraries within our [action plan](#) - both current members and those who might consider joining in future. Below you will see a call for expressions of interest in a “curators network” with the aim of helping staff, who may be the only expert within their organisation, benefit from being part of a wider community. We will also shortly be sending out invitations to member representatives at scholarly libraries to a round table discussion about the value the Consortium offers its scholarly library members and enhancements we might consider in the future. It should be a useful and lively conversation which helps shape our activities in the coming years.

Matthew Lawson, M25 Consortium Chair



Call for expressions of interest! Business Continuity Task and Finish Group

Deadline extended to 11th October

We're seeking individuals to join a new task and finish group to review and update the resources developed by the Business Continuity Group in 2018.

The resources were created to assist members with their planning for business continuity and disaster recovery and it was felt that lessons learned during the global pandemic, Covid-19, would be a worthwhile addition to these resources, as well as any new areas the group identifies. We encourage members of staff from all levels of experience to put themselves forward for membership and/or chair of the group. This is a great opportunity to build your own professional development as well as make an important contribution to the Consortium's work. **To make your expression of interest please email your name, job title, and institution, including a short statement (max. 200 words) explaining why you'd like to be part of the group, by 11 October to rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk.**

Call for expressions of interest! Curators' Network

We're exploring developing a Curators' Network to support individuals working in M25 Member libraries with curatorial responsibilities or holding curator roles within the library service. The aim of the network is to share experiences, best practices and to act as a professional support network for those individuals who are not working alongside other curatorial staff due to the nature of their institution or their role. We would love to hear from staff working at M25 member institutions who would find this network useful.



We encourage members of staff from all levels of experience to contact us to express their interest in being part of the Curators' Network. Your response will help us assess the level of interest in setting up this network. To make your expression of interest please email your name, job title, and institution to rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk.



M25 SpeedMeet

Every month we meet someone working in an M25 member institution and ask them to tell us a little bit about themselves. We're delighted to share with you the recent SpeedMeet with Paul Johnson, Director of Library and Learning Services at the University of Surrey. To read the current and past SpeedMeet interviews please [click here](#).

This opportunity is open to staff at all levels working at M25 member libraries. If you're interested in contributing to the SpeedMeet please contact rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk.

Wellbeing Resources for Library Staff

The M25 Task & Finish Group on Wellbeing has made available a number of excellent resources on the [M25 Wellbeing Blog](#) and [M25 website](#) looking at the ways academic libraries can promote student and staff wellbeing. Check out the most recent blog post from Clare Hunter (Royal Holloway, University of London) discussing four recent articles she found particularly useful in her research on how academic libraries can support students' mental health.



M25 Wellbeing Resources

50% discount for members on cpd25 events!

From 1 August 2021 M25 member institutions will receive a 50% discount on the full cost of cpd25 event rates.* This is a significant increase on the 25% discount currently in place. We will also continue to provide free member-only events as part of the programme. To be added to the cpd25



mailing list and receive weekly event updates
please email cpd25@london.ac.uk.

[Search25 update and Buddying Scheme](#)

This is a reminder that the **Search25 discovery tool was decommissioned on 31 July 2021**. We are encouraging members who are not already doing so to contribute their bibliographic metadata to the Jisc Library Hub. We have introduced the 'Buddying Scheme' to match those members not yet using Library Hub with an institution that has already made the transition to Library Hub. If you feel you could benefit from this scheme please contact rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk to find out more.



[Diversity in academic libraries](#)

The [M25 Diversity Task and Finish Group](#) is gathering case studies and examples of best practice from across member libraries. Our focus is on BAME staff experiences and we're particularly exploring four strands of work: active allying, starting conversations, diversity training, and positive action. **If your library has done work in any of these areas, we want to hear from you!** Please email Group Chair, Katie Winter at k.winter@surrey.ac.uk.

We're pleased to share with you case studies from the University of East London and the University of Surrey [View the case studies here](#).

Members' Area

Members are reminded to sign up for the exclusive Members' Area on the M25 website to enjoy additional benefits such as the virtual learning and development resources, which

include a presentation and audio from the keynote speaker at the M25 Conference, Professor Shân Wareing, on 'The Future of Libraries'.

[Sign up or log in here.](#)



Peer organisations:

SCONUL: <https://www.sconul.ac.uk/>

Mercian Collaboration: <https://merciancollaboration.org.uk/>

White Rose Libraries: <https://whiterose.ac.uk/projects/white-rose-libraries/>

Academic Libraries North (Formerly Northern Collaboration & NoWAL): <https://www.academiclibrariesnorth.ac.uk>

SCURL: <https://www.scurl.ac.uk/about>

WHELP: <https://whelf.ac.uk/>

Apologies for cross-posting

* The full rate is the same as a non-member rate. Members will be charged 50% less than non-members for cpd25 events from 1 August 2021.

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[M25 Consortium website](#)



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