



Newsletter

This month we are launching our new Research Forum and you will see below there is a call for expressions of interest for colleagues to share examples of their research. The idea was one of several generated at the last Steering Group planning day and I am delighted that Sara Burnett and her colleagues in the cpd25 task groups have run with it. We hope that this will be a new way for members to learn about interesting research taking place at other institutions which might inspire their own projects. A further intended benefit is developmental for presenters. A friendly and informal environment in which people can present their work should provide useful experience and help develop confidence for presenting at a larger event or conference in future. So if you've been involved in a research project - large or small – we'd love to hear from you. Please follow the link in the item below and be part of our new initiative

Matthew Lawson, M25 Consortium Chair

M25 Annual Conference 2022

11 May 2022. Registration is now open!

"All things being equal: the regional contribution of libraries"

The theme for this year's virtual Annual Conference will seek to explore community engagement and widening participation initiatives in M25 libraries. The keynote will be given by Professor Graeme Atherton, Head of the Centre for Inequality and Levelling Up at the University of West London. M25 member libraries receive one free delegate place as part of the benefits of membership - this is usually for the M25 Representative. Individuals eligible to attend for free are still required to register. We are also offering a student rate and a group discount rate. [For further details and to register please visit the website.](#)



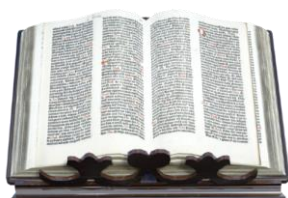
New Task and Finish Group

We are seeking individuals to join a task and finish group to review the Access25 scheme with the aim of improving the user experience and increasing awareness of the scheme.

We encourage members of staff from all levels of experience to put themselves forward for membership of the group. We particularly encourage those who regularly use the Access25 scheme to get involved. 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 **Friday 29th April** to M25 Steering

Group member and Head of Onsite Services at the National Art Library, Vicky Worsfold, at v.worsfold@vam.ac.uk.



M25 Curator and Exhibitions Network

The Curator and Exhibitions Network supports individuals working in M25 Member libraries with curatorial responsibilities or holding curator roles within the library service. The Network will be holding quarterly workshops to share experiences, best practices and to act as a professional support network.

The first workshop took place on the 24th March with a focus on 'Exhibitions'. You can watch the recording here:

[Curator and Exhibitions Network - M25](#)
m25lib.ac.uk

If you would like to learn more about this workshop or join the Curator and Exhibitions Network mailing list please contact m25libadmin@london.ac.uk

Directors' Briefing From Policy Soup to Deliverable Strategy, 5 May 2022

Directors and Heads of Service are invited to attend a briefing for senior library staff which will



be held on 5 May 2022 at 2 pm on Zoom.

In this Directors' Briefing, speakers from Jisc, the Department of Health and Social Care and the University of Westminster will present on their own experience and reflections developing and implementing policy in response to shifting external environments, and how this also influences strategy development.

Members receive one free Directors' Briefing place per institution per academic year, additional attendees are welcome to register for a fee. Registration is essential.

[Directors' Briefing](#)

cpd25 Research Forum

Have you recently written a dissertation for your library and information studies degree? Have you conducted research in your workplace? Would you like an opportunity to develop your presenting skills and meet others interested in your research?



cpd25 are organising our first research forum: an opportunity for library and information studies graduates and library workers to present research they have conducted either as part of their studies or in the workplace. We are seeking to provide a forum where research in and on libraries can be

disseminated, and a networking opportunity for students, graduates and professionals interested in library research.

We are looking for speakers to volunteer their time (travel expenses reimbursed) for a face-to-face event in central London in June 2022.

We are looking for 20-30 minutes (plus Q+A) presentations. We are not looking for any theme. We are also looking for posters presenting your research. These would be up to A1 sized posters summarising the aims and outcomes of your research so we can display at the venue.

We are looking for speakers who have not had many opportunities to present their research and we are looking for speakers from under-represented groups in libraries.

Please register your interest in presenting by 3 May 2022 at the link below.

[Expression of interest form](#)

M25 Mentoring Scheme

Are you working in an M25 member library and have experience as a mentor or would like to try mentoring for the first time?



We're seeking mentors for the M25 Mentoring Scheme. The scheme is intended to support non-senior staff in the Consortium's member libraries. We are seeking mentors from a wide range of library roles and levels of experience.

[Further information, guidelines, and details on how to apply can be found on the website.](#) Questions about the scheme should be sent to m25libadmin@london.ac.uk.

Interested in being a mentee? As soon as we've established a pool of mentors we will share information on how mentees can apply.



Diversity Task and Finish group Recruiting new members

The M25 Diversity Task and Finish Group are recruiting new members. If you're interested in joining the group or have any questions, please email Katie Winter at k.winter@surrey.ac.uk. You can read about the group and look at case studies gathered by the group [here](#).

Invitation to participate in an online research conversation

On behalf of Victoria Edwards at the University of Sheffield

I am currently studying towards a PhD in Information Studies at the University of Sheffield's iSchool. The purpose of my research is to explore both library and e-book supplier workflows surrounding the quality management of the bibliographic metadata of e-books and the relationships between these two parties. The research will also examine attitudes towards the value of cataloguing and how this relates to perceptions of roles within the changing environment of the academic library sector. The project also aims to consider communities of practice that key actors are involved in and the structures and norms of these communities. I am inviting senior managers and cataloguing staff from libraries within the M25 Consortium to participate in an online research conversation that will last approximately 45-60 minutes. If you are interested in taking part in this project, please email: veedwards2@sheffield.ac.uk

M25 Treasurer and Chair roles

The current Treasurer and Chair of the Consortium will come to the end of their terms of office in summer 2022. A formal announcement with the date of the AGM and a call for nominations for vacant positions will be circulated to member representatives in the spring. In the meantime, if you're interested in joining the Consortium's governance and would like to have an informal conversation about either of these roles please contact Cathy Phillpotts (Treasurer) at catherine.phillpotts@londonmet.ac.uk or Matthew Lawson (Chair) at m.lawson@mdx.ac.uk.

[Annual Report 2020-21](#)

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

If you're unable to view the images in this email please click 'unblock content' at the top of this email or contact m25libadmin@london.ac.uk.

[M25 Consortium website](#)

