



Newsletter

The M25 Consortium of Academic Libraries has people at its very heart. Whether you are a library assistant or a library director, the M25 represents a mutual support network and provides a range of opportunities for personal development and collaboration. As well as taking advantage of our events and programmes, participating in our cpd25 Task Groups or Task & Finish Groups - helping to shape our work whilst simultaneously gaining valuable experience - is a great development opportunity in itself. cpd25 Task Groups 2 and 4 are both currently recruiting new members. Why not get involved, or encourage colleagues to?

Our first M25 Leadership Briefing of 2024 takes place on 1 March at the Royal College of Nursing. The theme is Digital Transformation, and we have an exciting panel of speakers lined up. The event is open to leaders and aspiring leaders alike, and M25 member institutions get one free Leadership Briefing place each year. Booking is open now.

The 2024 M25 Staff Development Awards are also now open. There are 2 awards entitling free attendance at the M25 Annual Conference and 3 awards of the equivalent of one full day of cpd25 training to apply for. Applications are invited from any individual currently working at a member library. Deadline for applications is midday on 28 March 2024. Please share the details with your

colleagues and teams.

A reminder too that the M25 Mentoring Scheme is open for applications from both potential mentors and mentees. The scheme supports non-senior staff in our member libraries in their professional growth by facilitating relationship with more experience colleagues. There are huge benefits for both mentees and mentors – I'd strongly encourage you to consider applying to join the scheme, whatever stage of your career you're at.

And don't forget to check out the latest cpd25 programme and this month's M25 SpeedMeet!

David Archer, M25 Consortium Chair

Staff Development Awards

We are running our **Staff Development Awards** again this year for our members. Three awards are available for **free** attendance at [cpd25 training events](#), plus two **free** places at the [M25 Annual Conference](#) later this year.



This is an exclusive benefit for library staff of M25 member libraries. For further details and how to apply for all the awards please visit the [website](#).

The deadline for applications is the **28th March**



Leadership Briefing - 'Digital Transformation'

Friday 1st March, 1.30-4.00pm, at the Royal College of Nursing, London.

We will be having three 20-minute sessions looking at both digital technologies/systems and digital skills followed by two lightning talk sessions showcasing recent member initiatives. We hope it will also be a space for participants to share experiences with each other and connect over shared challenges and ideas.

The full programme and booking forms can be found on our [website](#).

cpd25 Task Group membership

cpd25 is currently seeking new members to join [Task Group 2](#) and [Task Group 4](#) and to contribute to the development and delivery of our events programme.

If you'd like to develop your planning and organisation skills, plus would like more networking opportunities, cpd25 would love to hear from you. Joining a cpd25 Task Group is a great way to get more involved and work with peers from other organisations in a supportive environment.

Membership is open to all staff in M25 member institutions, with members drawn from a cross-



section of member institutions, job roles and levels.

If anyone interested would like more information before making a decision, please contact the cpd25 Chair, [Sara Burnett](#), for an informal discussion. Formal expressions of interest, not exceeding 400 words, outlining relevant experience and reasons for wanting to get involved should be made to [Sara Burnett](#) by **Noon on Thursday 29th February** please.



[Mentoring Scheme](#)

The Consortium's mentoring scheme is intended to support non-senior staff in the Consortium's member libraries and will dovetail with [SCONUL's mentoring scheme](#) for senior staff. The core purpose of the scheme is to support library staff in their professional growth by facilitating mentoring relationships with more experienced colleagues. The scheme also aims to support the progression of LGBTQ+ and BAGM staff by giving mentees the opportunity to be matched with a mentor from a specific group or background. Both partners will learn and gain from the experience.

Full details including guidelines and application forms can be found on our [website](#).

Members of the scheme and cpd25 ran an online event recently to provide an introduction to mentoring, including best practice and tips on undertaking effective mentoring conversations, an opportunity to hear from a seasoned mentor about their experience, and an overview of the M25's Mentoring Scheme. Recordings of the presentations are available in the members area of the Consortium's website - visit the [Virtual Learning and Development](#) page.

M25 SpeedMeet

Every month we meet someone working in an M25 member institution and ask them to tell us a little bit about themselves. This month we meet **Chloe Carson-Ashurst** from the National Gallery. [View the latest SpeedMeet and past interviews here.](#)



If you're interested in contributing to the SpeedMeet please contact m25libadmin@london.ac.uk.

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

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[M25 Consortium website](#)