

M25 Consortium Newsletter March 2021

Rachel <rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk>

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To: Rachel Telfer <rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk>



The annual conference is a highlight of the M25 year: an opportunity to hear diverse voices speaking on current issues from across the sector and beyond; as well as lots of networking with friends and colleagues old and new. We were very disappointed to have to cancel last year's conference due to the lockdown, but having gained lots of experience of running virtual events over the last year we are back with our first online conference on 30th March. The theme remains very relevant, "The Future of Libraries" at a time when so much is uncertain and we have speakers reflecting on diverse aspects of what the next few years may hold. This includes a keynote from Professor Shân Wareing the Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Northampton, and sessions on our digital collections; students of the future; open research developments; and funding challenges for specialist libraries. We have reduced the conference fees this year and also have a number of bursaries on offer so I do hope you will be able to join us for what promises to be an enjoyable and stimulating day.

Matthew Lawson, M25 Consortium Chair

**[Members' Seminar: Library Hub
Knowledge Exchange](#)**

[Free Members' event, 24th March 2021](#)

We are holding a virtual **Members' Seminar at 2 pm on Wednesday 24th March** to provide information and support for M25 members who would like to learn more about Library Hub/NBK in advance of the planned retirement of the Search25 service in July 2021. Speakers include Jisc and M25 Member institutions already using Library Hub. Staff from all M25 member institutions are welcome to attend, but the event is specifically aimed at Systems Librarians and Heads of Service or equivalent in institutions not yet using Library Hub. For further details and to register your attendance please visit the [M25 website](#).



M25 Annual Conference **Book your place now!**

'The Future of Libraries' 30 March 2021

Registration for the virtual Annual Conference is now open! To book your place and view the programme click the button below.

Thank you to our conference sponsors [AM Digital](#) and [Bibliographic Data Services](#).

Annual Conference

Conference Bursaries

Exclusive M25 Member opportunity

Deadline extension! Monday 15 March

We're now accepting applications to the Conference Bursary Scheme, part of our Staff Development Awards initiative. Bursaries are available to cover conference costs up to a maximum of £500. Bursaries can be used for attendance at a virtual conference. Members are also invited to apply for a free delegate place at the M25 Annual Conference 2021. For further



details and how to apply please click the link below.

Staff Development Awards



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 a case study from the University of Surrey 'How to talk about diversity in the academic library'. [View the case study here.](#)

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 Frances Willis, Assistant Librarian at the National Art Library at the V&A Museum. If you're interested in contributing to the SpeedMeet please contact m25libadmin@london.ac.uk. [View the latest SpeedMeet interview here.](#)



Staff cuts and access restrictions at the National Art Library.



Members may be interested in this petition concerning proposals for changes to the staffing and access to collections at the National Art Library at the V&A Museum - link below.

[Petition · Victoria & Albert Museum: STOP THE CUTS AND ACCESS RESTRICTIONS AT THE NATIONAL ART LIBRARY \(V&A\) · Change.org](#)

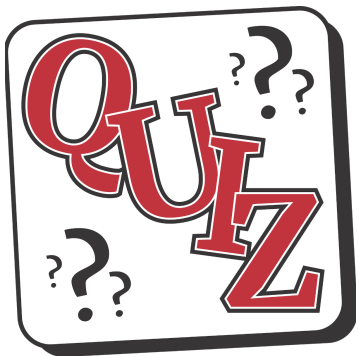
M25 Vouchers

Deadline 31 July 2021

This is a reminder to all members with M25 vouchers remaining from 2019-20 or 2020-21 that voucher credit will remain valid until 31 July 2021. Vouchers can be redeemed against membership subscriptions, cpd25 events, the M25 conference, and events. For further information on vouchers please visit the Members' Area or contact m25sgadmin@london.ac.uk. M25 Vouchers for 2021-22 will be available in the spring.



Members' Area



Members' Quiz

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Members' Quiz on 25th February, we hope you had as much fun as we did. Congratulations to the winner, Vicky Worsfold from the V&A National Art Library!

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/>
Northern Collaboration: <https://northerncollaboration.org.uk/>
NoWAL: <https://www.nowal.ac.uk/>
SCURL: <https://www.scurl.ac.uk/about>
WHELF: <https://whelf.ac.uk/>

Apologies for cross-posting

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M25 Consortium website



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M25 Consortium of Academic Libraries
C/O, Devonshire House
60 Goswell Road
London, London EC1M 7AD
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