

## M25 Consortium Newsletter July 2021

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



This month's newsletter highlights one of the strengths of the M25: the opportunity for staff at member organisations to benefit the whole community by participating in task groups. The Wellbeing and Diversity groups have done excellent work over the past couple of years despite the challenges brought by the pandemic and an impressive range of resources are now available for members. Colleagues working on the groups have also said that they have found being involved very rewarding and that they have learned a lot. A few years ago Regina Everitt led a similar group that produced a very useful business continuity toolkit. The Steering Group was already planning to review and update materials to ensure currency of information, but we realised that it would also be useful to explore the new kind of business continuity issues that Covid has raised. Steering Group member Stuart Hunt will sponsor the group and you will see the call for volunteers below. You don't need to be an expert: just willing and able to reflect on the guidance you would have found useful when closing or reopening services over the past year and then help to incorporate updated advice into a revised toolkit. Why not get involved?

Matthew Lawson, M25 Consortium Chair

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### Wellbeing Resources for Library



## Staff

The M25 Task & Finish Group on Wellbeing is investigating the ways academic libraries can promote student and staff wellbeing. The group has made available a number of excellent resources on the [M25 Wellbeing Blog](#) and [M25 website](#) including a new toolkit created by QMUL for line managers to help promote the wellbeing of its staff.

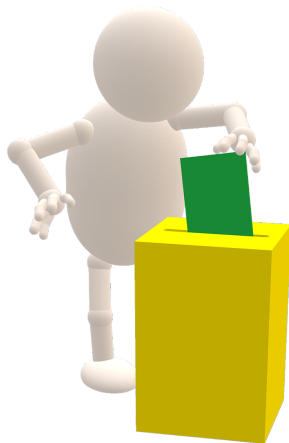
### M25 Wellbeing Resources

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

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 31 August to [rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk](mailto:rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk).





## Governance of the M25 Consortium

A warm welcome to new members of the Steering Group, Anna Semmens from the Royal College of Nursing and Christopher Cipkin from Royal Holloway, University of London. We're also delighted to have David Archer from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine join the Steering Group when his term as cpd25 Chair ends on 31 July. Sara Burnett from Kingston University will be taking over as cpd25 Chair from 1 August. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time during 2020-21, especially our Trustees, Steering Group, Task Groups, and Task and Finish Group members.

Members who were not present at the AGM can find details of the agreed subscription fees for 2021-22 in the [Members' Area on the website](#).

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## 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](mailto:cpd25@london.ac.uk).



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## Search25 update and Buddying Scheme

This is a reminder that the **Search25 discovery tool will be decommissioned on 31 July 2021**. Please make your staff and users aware of this deadline. 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](mailto:rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk) to find out more.

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## M25 SpeedMeet

Every month we meet someone working in an M25 member institution and ask them to tell us a little bit about themselves. In July we met Robert Atkinson, Director of Library Services at Birkbeck, University of London. [View the latest SpeedMeet and past interviews here.](#)

If you're interested in contributing to the SpeedMeet please contact [rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk](mailto:rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk).



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## 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](mailto: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.](#)

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## 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.](#)

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### 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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