M25 Consortium Newsletter August 2021

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

This month marks the 12th of our regular M25 SpeedMeet profiles of staff at member institutions. They were introduced during the pandemic when we couldn't network in person, but have been so successful that I hope they will become a permanent feature. They certainly demonstrate the diversity within our community: so far we have had contributors from both the Russell Group and Post-92 groups of universities and from museum and specialist libraries focusing on aspects of both the arts and healthcare. The roles of contributors have also varied from service directors to curators, subject librarians and resource specialists. If you would like to be included in future (or dare I suggest to nominate a colleague?!) please contact Rachel Telfer rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk.

This month's volunteer is Sara Burnett who has just taken over from David Archer as the new Chair of cpd25. I'm delighted that David has been elected onto the M25 Steering Group so we will continue to benefit from his experience. Sara has been involved with organising cpd25 events for several years, most recently as a task group chair. I am very much looking forward to working with her and seeing the new ideas she brings to this challenging but rewarding role. If you have suggestions for activities that you would like to see cpd25 organising we have a Suggestion Form on the website.

Matthew Lawson, M25 Consortium Chair

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.

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 by **13 September to** rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk.

cpd25 opportunities - Task Group Membership

cpd25 is currently seeking a new member to join Task Group 2 and to contribute to the development and delivery of our programme. Membership of Task Groups is open to all staff in M25 member institutions, with Task Group members normally drawn from a cross-section of member institutions, job roles and levels. Each Task Group meets approximately 3-4 times per year, and there is an annual cpd25 planning event when topics are considered to inform the following academic year's programme planning. 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 Friday 17th September 2021**.

M25 SpeedMeet
Introducing Sara Burnett, cpd25 Chair

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 SpeedMeet with Sara Burnett, Information Specialist for Kingston School of Art at Kingston University and new Chair of cpd25! A warm welcome to Sara in her new role as M25 Trustee and cpd25 Chair. To learn more about Sara and to read past SpeedMeet interviews please click here.

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 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

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
WHELF: 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