

## M25 Consortium Newsletter November 2021

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



The opportunity to learn from colleagues is one of the main benefits the Consortium network provides – understanding what has worked (and not worked) from people working in similar situations. I have found it incredibly useful being mentored throughout my career. Having a safe space outside my immediate organisation to talk through issues has helped me understand and overcome numerous challenges. It has also been rewarding to mentor staff at different stages of their careers and offer suggestions for them to consider in their development.

I am really pleased that we are launching the M25 mentor scheme this month and would like to thank Michelle Wake, Andrew Preater and David Archer for taking this forward in conjunction with Cathy Walsh who leads the Sconul scheme for senior staff. So whether you've been a mentor before or would like to try it for the first time please have a look at the information below and on the M25 website and consider taking part. We will have a similar call for mentees in the new year.

Matthew Lawson, M25 Consortium Chair

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### cpd25 awards

#### Deadline extension - 30 November 2021

We have extended the deadline to receive applications for one and two days of cpd25 training. These awards

are exclusive to staff in M25 member libraries and we welcome applications from any library role or level of experience. For further information and how to apply please visit the [M25 website](#).



## Member engagement survey

We would be grateful if all staff at M25 member libraries would complete the member engagement survey at the button below. Your responses are an essential part of our work to ensure the Consortium's services are as relevant and accessible as possible. The survey will close on 5 January.

[Member engagement survey](#)

## New for 2021-22 M25 Mentoring Scheme

We're delighted to introduce the M25 Mentoring Scheme. The core purpose of the M25 Mentoring Scheme is to support library staff in their professional growth by facilitating mentoring relationships with more experienced colleagues. The 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.



### Call for mentors

**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 are looking for mentors who want to support the professional development of others and in doing so, contribute to their own professional development. Mentors should have at least two years' experience at a level equivalent to or higher than the proposed mentee, therefore, 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 the M25 Executive Manager, Rachel Telfer, at [rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk](mailto:rachel.telfer@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](mailto:k.winter@surrey.ac.uk). You can read about the group and look at case studies gathered by the group [here](#).

## Introducing RUSI

We're delighted to welcome the Royal United Services Institute to the Consortium.

Click the button below to read more about the library, its collections and Librarian, Jacqui Grainger.



[Royal United Services Institute](#)



## M25 SpeedMeet

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 recent SpeedMeet with Emma Wisher, Assistant Director for User Engagement at the University of Essex. To read the current and past SpeedMeet interviews please [click here](#).

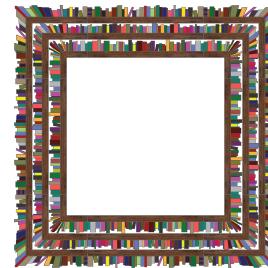
This opportunity is open to staff at all levels working at M25 member libraries. If you're

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

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## Would you like to write a post for our wellbeing blog? Get in touch!

We invite members to share case studies on wellbeing in your libraries for the [M25 Wellbeing blog](#). If you would like to contribute to the blog please contact [rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk](mailto:rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk). We look forward to hearing from you.



The M25 Task & Finish Group on Wellbeing has made available a number of excellent resources on the M25 Wellbeing Blog and M25 website looking at the ways academic libraries can promote student and staff wellbeing. You can view the resources by clicking the button below.

[M25 Wellbeing Resources](#)



## Join the M25 Curators' Network

The Curators' Network supports 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.

We encourage members of staff from all levels of experience to contact us to express their interest in being part of the Curators' Network. Please email your name, job title, and institution to [rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk](mailto:rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk).

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## 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](mailto:rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk) to find out more.



## Notice for M25 Reps



We would be delighted to meet with you to discuss how the Consortium's services can support you and your team. We also welcome suggestions and feedback from staff at member institutions. If you feel you could benefit from an informal meeting (in-person or virtual) with the M25 Executive Manager, please contact [rachel.telfer@london.ac.uk](mailto:rachel.telfer@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>

WHELF: <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](mailto:m25libadmin@london.ac.uk).

[M25 Consortium website](#)



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