



## Newsletter

The M25 thrives on engagement and feedback from its members – whether that is attendance at events; joining one of our task groups; or standing for an elected post on the Steering Group and Trustees. All of these help with the development of individual skills and experiences which have broad benefits for member libraries; as well as ensuring the Consortium benefits from a diversity of ideas. These principles are exemplified in two ways this month: firstly we are sharing the results of the Member Engagement Survey which was circulated at the end of 2021. As you might expect, there is endorsement for a lot of current activities, as well as a few challenges and suggestions for new services. Please read through the results and send any further comments to Rachel Taylor.

Secondly, the limited election terms for Steering Group members ensures that the forum overseeing the future direction of the Consortium embraces new approaches and viewpoints. Both Cathy Phillipotts (Treasurer) and I reach the end of our terms at the AGM this summer. In anticipation that people may like to understand a little bit more about each role before deciding whether to put themselves forward, we are both happy to have an informal off the record chat with anyone who would like to find out a little more. Details are included below.

Matthew Lawson, M25 Consortium Chair

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## M25 Annual Conference 2022

Call for Papers and Posters: deadline noon 25th February 2022

"All things being equal: the regional contribution of libraries"

We are delighted to announce the M25 Consortium's 2022 virtual Annual Conference will take place on Wednesday 11th May. Please save the date in your diary.

### The Call for Papers and Posters is now open.

The theme this year "All things being equal: the regional contribution of libraries" will seek to explore community engagement and widening participation initiatives in M25 libraries. [For full information on the Call for Papers and Posters please visit the website.](#) **The deadline for submission of abstracts is noon Friday 25th February 2022.** All staff working in M25 libraries are encouraged to apply.



### M25 Conference Bursary Award

Would you like to attend a LIS conference in 2022 but don't have funding available? Apply to the Conference Bursary Award. One bursary will be awarded for up to a maximum of £500 to attend an in-person or virtual conference. The bursary can be used towards conference fees, accommodation and travel costs.

The call for applications for the Conference Bursary Award 2022 is now open. The deadline for applications is **5 pm Friday 4th March**. All staff from M25 libraries are encouraged to apply. [Please visit the website for further details.](#)

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## Member Engagement Survey

We carried out a membership survey between November 2021 and January 2022. Thank you to those who participated in the survey. To view the results of the survey please visit the Members' Area on the website.

[Members' Area](#)

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## M25 Treasurer and Chair roles

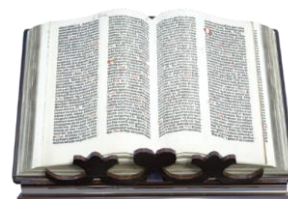
The current Treasurer and Chair of the Consortium will come to the end of their terms of office in summer 2022. A formal announcement with the date of the AGM and a call for nominations for vacant positions will be circulated to member representatives in the spring. In the meantime, if you're interested in joining the Consortium's governance and would like to have an informal conversation about either of these roles please contact Cathy Phillpotts (Treasurer) at [catherine.phillpotts@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:catherine.phillpotts@londonmet.ac.uk) or Matthew Lawson (Chair) at [m.lawson@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:m.lawson@mdx.ac.uk).

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## M25 Curator and Exhibitions Network

### Exhibitions workshop

The Curator and Exhibitions Network supports individuals working in M25 Member libraries with curatorial responsibilities or holding curator roles within the library service. The Network will be holding quarterly workshops to share experiences, best practices and to act as a professional support network. The first workshop will be held on 24th March and will focus on 'Exhibitions'. If you would like to learn more about



this workshop or join the Curator and Exhibitions  
Network mailing list please contact  
rachel.taylor@london.ac.uk.

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## **M25 Mentoring Scheme**

**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're delighted to introduce the M25 Mentoring Scheme. 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**

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 Taylor, at [rachel.taylor@london.ac.uk](mailto:rachel.taylor@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.

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## cpd25 Task Group recruitment

cpd25 is currently seeking new members to join [Task Group 3](#) and [Task Group 4](#). 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. 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 25th February 2022** please.

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## 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](#).





## 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.taylor@london.ac.uk](mailto:rachel.taylor@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.

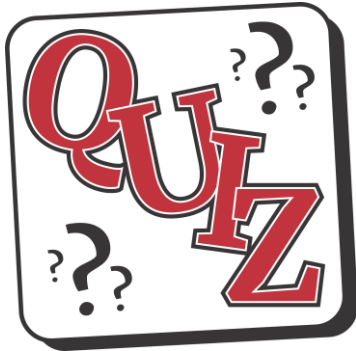
[M25 Wellbeing Resources](#)

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## 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.taylor@london.ac.uk](mailto:rachel.taylor@london.ac.uk).





## Members' Quiz

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Members' Quiz on 8th February, we hope you had as much fun as we did. Congratulations to the winner, Jacqui Grainger, from the Royal United Services Institute Library!

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## Invitation to participate in an online research conversation

### On behalf of Victoria Edwards at the University of Sheffield

I am currently studying towards a PhD in Information Studies at the University of Sheffield's iSchool. The purpose of my research is to explore both library and e-book supplier workflows surrounding the quality management of the bibliographic metadata of e-books and the relationships between these two parties. The research will also examine attitudes towards the value of cataloguing and how this relates to perceptions of roles within the changing environment of the academic library sector. The project also aims to consider communities of practice that key actors are involved in and the structures and norms of these communities. I am inviting senior managers and cataloguing staff from libraries within the M25 Consortium to participate in an online research conversation that will last approximately 45-60 minutes. If you are interested in taking part in this project, please email me: [veedwards2@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:veedwards2@sheffield.ac.uk)

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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

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](#)



