M25 CONSORTIUM OF ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Newsletter

One of the key values of the M25 Consortium to our members is participation. As an active, open and welcoming group of libraries, our membership has the ability to participate in all aspects of our work. It is important to us that the M25 is as open as possible to all staff irrespective of their role within all our member libraries. Many colleagues participate in our excellent cpd25 programme of events, training courses and visits. To make these as available as possible to all our members we are once again running our cpd25 training awards and our M25 conference awards. These are available for all members to apply for in order to attend either one of our training events or our annual conference. In the cost of living crisis, when training funds may be limited at member libraries, these awards enable staff to attend M25 activities who might not otherwise be able to. I would encourage you to apply.

Participation is also a key part of the running of the M25. We are always seeking members who want to work with us on the running of the consortium and our programme of events. This type of participation is both rewarding individually but also helps keep the consortium engaged. Two of our cpd25 task groups are seeking new members so, if you want to participate in the planning of our training programmes we would be keen to hear from you. Participation from all our members helps keep us the vibrant and engaged consortium that we are.

Stuart Hunt, M25 Consortium Chair

Exclusive offer for members - cpd25 training awards and M25 Conference awards

We are now accepting applications for **cpd25 training** awards. Three awards are available for free cpd25 training.

We are also awarding two free places at the M25 **Annual Conference** on the 14th June.

This is an exclusive benefit for library staff of M25 member libraries. For further details and how to apply for all the awards please visit the website.

The deadline for applications is the **27th April.**

Networking event 2023

To celebrate the Consortium's **30th anniversary** this year, we invite all members to attend an in-person celebration drinks reception taking place on the evening of **Tuesday 16th May.**
The event will be hosted at the **Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew** from 6pm and all members are invited to attend. Please register by May the 11th via our website if you would like to attend.

[M25 Annual Conference 2023](#)
Call for Papers and Posters
'Sustainability and kindness'

We are delighted to announce the M25 Consortium's 2023 virtual Annual Conference will take place on **Wednesday 14th June**. Please save the date in your diary.

The Call for Papers and Posters is now open.
The theme this year is 'Sustainability and kindness' and will consider the broad and often connected themes of environmental sustainability and kindness – both to each other and to the environment we all depend on. What role can M25 libraries play in supporting both institutional and international sustainability goals? How can the collective actions of individual users and library staff deliver positive benefits for the environment? What successful sustainability stories can already be told about M25 Consortium libraries, and what role did a supportive, kind culture play? This event will provide an opportunity to share experiences, initiatives and learning. On the basis that the smallest changes can ultimately have a massive cumulative effect on the global challenge of environmental sustainability, all initiatives are of interest.

Full information and application details can be found on our [website.](#) The deadline for submissions is noon on the **6th April 2023**. All staff working in M25 libraries are encouraged to apply.

Please share this opportunity with your colleagues.

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cpd25 Task Groups

cpd25 is currently seeking new members to join [Task Group 2](#) and [Task Group 4](#) and to contribute to the development and delivery of our programme on behalf of the M25 Consortium of Academic Libraries.

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. We are particularly keen to encourage more representation from our members within scholarly institutions.

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.

Task Group 2 is a group that provide training and development in areas such as equal opportunities, accessibility, disability, health and safety, copyright and data protection. We always attempt to work on events in pairs or more, so newer members can work alongside those with more experience. Recently we have held events on "Supporting staff and students with autism and learning disorders" which was a repeat event we have run in the past, "The role of prison libraries" and we have had a visit to the Wellcome Library. One of our upcoming events we have organised include "Deaf awareness training with Dot Sign Language which is a repeat of a session we held last year.

Task Group 4 is a small, but very friendly group and we always work on events in pairs or more, so newer members can work alongside those with more experience. We tend to put on some repeat events each year, such as 'Training for supervisors' as they're so popular. We also try out some new events and plan visits. These past few months we've arranged visits to the libraries of the Royal College of Surgeons and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, as well as a half-day event on 'Your career plan'.

Please do circulate to your teams. 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 Thursday 6th April 2023** please.

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

M25 Consortium website