

The logo for the M25 Consortium of Academic Libraries Newsletter. It features the text 'M25' in a large, bold font, with 'M' in grey and '25' in orange. Below this, 'CONSORTIUM OF ACADEMIC LIBRARIES' is written in a smaller, grey, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the word 'Newsletter' is written in a bold, grey, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a white background within a white rectangular frame, which is itself centered on a larger orange background.

M25
CONSORTIUM
OF ACADEMIC LIBRARIES
Newsletter

David Archer, M25 Consortium Chair

Our second Leadership Briefing of 2023-2024, which took place last Friday 19th July at the Royal College of Nursing, was a resounding success. Our three speakers spoke openly and honestly about their personal experiences of “Failing Forwards”, before joining a panel session to answer questions from attendees. It was extremely informative and engaging, and I was inspired to revisit reflexive practice myself when reflecting on my own challenging experiences. Thank you to everyone who was involved, particularly our brave and thoughtful presenters. It was an excellent event to close out the current M25 year.

The Diversity Working Group member survey is now out, and we are really keen to hear from you. Details can be found below - please respond yourself and also share the details with colleagues.



We want to hear from as many people working with our M25 member institutions as possible. The survey findings will be used to develop a report and webinar highlighting best practice across the region and help inform priorities for future work to support our members in this important area.

A reminder that, following consultation with the membership, the decision has been taken to close the M25 Voucher Scheme. New vouchers can be purchased up to 30 August 2024 and all vouchers must be used by 31 July 2025.

As mentioned last time, there are a number of opportunities arising for staff at M25 member institutions to get involved in the work of the M25 Consortium. These include joining a Working Group or Task & Finish Group to drive forward key aspects of our strategy to support our members, becoming a member of a cpd25 Task Group (currently recruiting!) to shape our professional development programme, and (if you're the M25 member representative for your institution) joining the M25 Steering Group to contribute to the direction of our Consortium overall. Getting involved is hugely rewarding and enjoyable - take a look at the testimonials from some of our current cpd25 Task Group members below and check out our latest SpeedMeet.

Finally, thank you all for your engagement and support over the past year, in whatever capacity that has been and I look forward to an exciting year ahead in 2024-2025. In the meantime, I wish you all a pleasant summer.

David



**What initiatives do your libraries and institutions have in place to address issues of inequality?
Let's build a picture for the region**

The [M25 Diversity Group](#) is seeking to understand measures your libraries and institutions have implemented that aim to address issues of inequality and has a Survey we'd love you to complete. The results of this survey will contribute to a report and webinar outlining current practice in member libraries.

Thank you if you have already filled in the survey. If not, there's still time for you to contribute. It will only take up about five to ten minutes of your time. This survey is open to all staff, working at all levels, within M25 libraries so please do circulate widely.

Survey web

address: <https://forms.gle/4M4qT6rdpRa8dVrE9>

[M25 Annual Conference June 2024 – Libraries](#)
Transformed and Transforming: technology, space, people

We're delighted to make available exclusively to our members the recorded presentations from the M25 Annual Conference 2024 held online on 6 June. They are available to watch in the Members' Area of our website in 'Virtual learning and development'.



If you were not able to attend, you can now watch the following presentations:

- **Keynote: *Conceptualising the future University Library at the University of Essex*** – Jonathan White, University of Essex
- ***Academic Integrity and AI*** - Robert Curry, Oxford Brookes University
- ***Transformational processes: Creating new libraries from old*** - Rowan Williamson, Chris Foreman, and Kelli Staake, University of the Arts London
- **Lightning talk # 1 *Collections transforming and transformed through STEM-centred events*** - Sarah Pipkin, UCL Special Collections
- **Lightning talk #2 *Supercharging Digital Transformation: The Impact of a Library Digital Technologist at London Met***

Library, Presented by Ellie Murphy and
Naomi Elliott, London Metropolitan
University

Watch them

here: <https://www.m25lib.org.uk/members-area/virtual-learning-and-development/>



It's rewarding and beneficial to get involved with cpd25

cpd25 is the staff development and training programme of the M25 Consortium of Academic Libraries. cpd25 is governed by its Chair (Sara Burnett) and Working Group, each member of which leads a task group responsible for a particular area of staff development. Our highly respected programme of events, visits and training is therefore overwhelmingly curated by our members.

We have been asking members of cpd25 Task and Finish Groups why they value being involved:

"Working with a CPD25 task group has provided me with far more than I expected! I have had the opportunity to meet with library staff both in the CPD25 membership but also nationally, visit other libraries, gain confidence in public speaking and get free training."

Judith Wells, Customer Services Manager,
University Library, ARU Cambridge. Member of Task

Group Three, Operations Management.

"I have always loved visiting libraries, learning about the myriad of precious and magical collections, buildings, and archives, as well as meeting many library colleagues from different organisations. So, joining the group and playing an active role behind the scenes of these events was an opportunity I just couldn't miss. Since becoming a member, I have worked alongside extremely talented, kind, and hard-working colleagues, all volunteering their time to ensure the smooth running of a regular and diverse portfolio of CPD events."

Veronica Parisi, Training and Clinical Support Librarian, Cruciform Hub, UCL Member of Task Group Four, Personal, Management and Business Skills.

You can read more testimonials on our website: www.m25lib.org.uk/cpd25/cpd25-task-group-member-testimonials/

Current Opportunity to Engage and Develop

Do you know a member of staff that would benefit from the professional development and learning opportunities of joining a Task and Finish Group?

We are currently seeking a new member to join

[Task Group 2 Quality Standards and Legal Frameworks](#) and to contribute to the development and delivery of our programme on behalf of the M25 Consortium of Academic Libraries.

Interested? Send your expression of interest, not exceeding 400 words, outlining any relevant experience and reasons for wanting to get

involved to [Sara Burnett](#) by **Noon on Monday 30th September.**

Register for our next Training Event in September

[Training for Supervisors](#)

Trainer: Ash Charlton

Online, Thursday 12th September, 10am-1pm

This online session clarifies the role and responsibilities of the supervisor, giving clear guidelines for the basic functions of supervising staff, as well as tips for delegating, upskilling, giving feedback and dealing with challenges to your role.

Book Now:

www.m25lib.org.uk/events/events-booking-form-members/



Update on the M25 Voucher Scheme



The M25 Consortium has been operating a M25 Voucher Scheme, which some members have found a useful way of using funds in their current financial year training budget while retaining the allocation for the following year.

New voucher purchase deadline: 30 August 2024

Following consultation with members, we have made the decision to close the M25 Voucher Scheme. We recognise that some members will require time to prepare for the withdrawal of the

scheme and may already have plans to purchase vouchers at the end of the current financial year. For the academic year 2024-25, new vouchers can be purchased up to **30 August 2024**. After this date, the Voucher Scheme will be closed to new purchases.

Existing vouchers must be used by 31 July 2025. From 1 August 2025, the M25 Voucher Scheme closes completely.

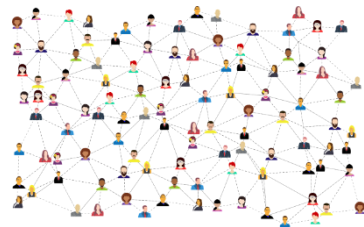
While the scheme remains open, you can use M25 Vouchers for:

- cpd25 training events
- Annual Conference delegate fees
- Leadership Briefings delegate fees
- Membership subscription

Find out First

A key way we communicate with our members is through our JISCmail lists. Through our weekly cpd25 listing, and our monthly M25 newsletter, along with other posts, we inform you about new events, visits, training, development opportunities, activities, and resources.

All your staff can sign up to both our M25 and cpd25 newsletters to find out first about our events and opportunities.



To receive our weekly cpd25 newsletter, send an email with your name, organisation and email address to cpd25@london.ac.uk marked 'Please add me to the cpd25 news mailing list'.

To receive all our posts, including our monthly newsletter, join the LIS-M25 list by sending an email with your name, organisation and email address to m25libadmin@london.ac.uk

Alternatively, search for CPD25-NEWS and LIS-M25 on <https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/> and choose the option to 'Subscribe'

Discover More in our Members' Area

The Members' Area of our website is where you can find Conference recordings, resources and info on our cpd25 Task Groups. Don't miss out, check you and your staff have registered for the Members' Area on our website: www.m25lib.org.uk/members-area/



[M25 SpeedMeet](#)

Every month we meet someone working in an M25 member institution and ask them to tell us a little bit about themselves. This month we meet **Fiona Ainsworth, Head of Library and Archives at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew**. Fiona is responsible for the paper-based collections of RBG Kew, which comprise the library, illustrations and archives. Find out on our website how the M25 Consortium

has supported her career and which author's books she has a passion for.

[Read Fiona's profile and browse our past interviews](#)

We're looking for more profiles. Whatever your role, we'd love to hear from you. If you'd like to be featured on our M25 SpeedMeet page, send an email to m25libadmin@london.ac.uk.

[It's all about you](#)

We hope you have had a fulfilling and interesting year with opportunities to develop professionally and engage with other M25 Members.



We would like to thank all our members for your support and engagement this year. We'd also like to extend a special thank you to Member representatives and staff from Member institutions who participate in our Groups, Networks and Committees. Thank you for all your ideas, enthusiasm, contributions, and hard work.

We look forward to working for the benefit of all our Members and their staff in 2024-25 to deliver the events, resources, services and advocacy you all need and deserve.

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

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[M25 Consortium website](#)



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