

The logo for the M25 Consortium of Academic Libraries Newsletter. It features the text 'M25' in a large, bold, sans-serif font, with the 'M' in grey and the '25' in orange. Below this, the words 'CONSORTIUM' and 'OF ACADEMIC LIBRARIES' are stacked in a smaller, grey, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the word 'Newsletter' is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

M25 CONSORTIUM OF ACADEMIC LIBRARIES Newsletter

David Archer, M25 Consortium Chair



It was great to see so many member representatives at our AGM last month, and to formally approve and welcome the British Psychotherapy Foundation, the House of Commons Library, Northeastern University London and the Royal Horticultural Society as our newest members. At the meeting members approved the 2023-2024 annual report and accounts and also the budget and proposed 0% increase on member subscriptions for 2025-2026.

Amongst the appointments to Trustee positions and the Steering Group made at the AGM we welcomed Sally Brock, Head of Operations, Libraries and Collections at Kings College London, to the role of cpd25 Chair following the end of Sara Burnett's term of office. Sally takes up post on 1 August, and I'm sure you all join me in welcoming Sally and thanking Sara for all her amazing work over the past four years.

Thank you to everyone who completed our membership survey, which closed on 30 April. Our Member Benefits Task & Finish Group are reviewing the results as we speak, and these will help shape what we do on behalf of our members going forward. We will share a summary of the findings in the very near future.

We have three great events coming up. Our next Leadership Briefing, focusing on how libraries can add value to the student experience agenda, takes place at the Royal College of Nursing on 6 June. This is followed a week or so later by our cpd25 programme's SLA Conference 2025: AI in Libraries, taking place at the London College of Fashion on 19 June. And to round out the year, our Annual Conference: Shaping the Future takes place at the University of Greenwich on 24 June. Places are filling up fast for all three events, so please book your place now to avoid

disappointment.

Best wishes, David

AGM round-up

Our AGM took place online on 29 April. We had good attendance from Member Representatives; thank you to those that attended. Here's a reminder of decisions made by members at the AGM.



New members

Members approved the following organisations into M25 Consortium membership:

- British Psychotherapy Foundation
- House of Commons Library
- Northeastern University London
- Royal Horticultural Society

This means that we are now a 55 member Consortium with 58% Higher Education institution members and 42% are scholarly, heritage or national libraries.

No subscription increase

Members approved a 0% increase in

membership subscriptions for 2025-26. This means that there will be no increases in membership rates for the second year running to reflect the financial difficulties some of our members are facing.

JISC band review

For institutions with a JISC band, our membership rates relate to that institution's JISC banding. JISC has recently undertaken a JISC band review which has resulted in a few of our members changing bands. We will inform those members affected in July when we send out renewal notices. For more information, please contact M25 Consortium's Operations Manager, Jill Howard: m25libadmin@london.ac.uk

cpd25 Chair

Members noted the appointment of Sally Brock as the new incoming Chair of cpd25. Sara Burnett ends her terms of office at the end of July. We would like to express our thanks to Sara for all her amazing work leading the cpd25 programme to great success over the last few years.

We're excited to welcome Sally Brock from King's College London as Sara's successor. Sally has been involved in cpd25 for some time as a

member and then Chair of Task Group Four.

At the meeting we also approved:

- The recommendation to appoint Godfrey Wilson as the company to undertake our Independent Examination and provide financial support services, such as filing annual accounts.
- The 2023-24 accounts and the budget for the year 1 August 2025 to 31 July 2026
- Christopher Cipkin as Treasurer for another two years
- Six Steering Group members. Elections to these posts were not necessary as the number of nominations did not exceed the number of vacancies. You can read the full current list of the Steering Group members here: www.m25lib.org.uk/about-the-consortium/governance/
- A new suite of updated Policy documents including policies on complaints and serious incidents, financial management and risk management

The unconfirmed minutes of the 2025 AGM will be added to the Members' Area of the M25

Consortium website soon. Please contact Jill Howard, Operations Manager by email: m25libadmin@london.ac.uk if you would like any of the reports/papers that went to the AGM.



[SLA Conference 2025 - AI in Libraries: Friend or Foe](#)

19th June, 10am-4pm

London College of Fashion

cpd25 is pleased to bring you our annual SLA (Senior Library Assistant) Conference on 19th June. This year the theme is Artificial Intelligence in libraries.

This in-person event will be a highly participative day with plenty of opportunities for networking, enabling attendees to share their experiences and best practice.

We're delighted to announce Dr Julie Wall from the University of West London as our Keynote Speaker. She will be presenting on 'Practical and Ethical AI: Supporting Staff and Students in a Changing Library Landscape'.

There will also be an opportunity to visit LCF Library, including the Materials library which contains extraordinary materials from a range of plant-based, paper, fabrics and textiles.

This event is open to all and would particularly benefit Senior Library Assistants, Information Services Supervisors, Library Assistants, Information Assistants or their equivalent.

Chance to contribute

If you would like to contribute to the day by sharing a five minute presentation on how you have been motivated to use AI in your work, please contact us at cpd25@london.ac.uk with details by Monday 9th June.

Don't miss out, register here: www.m25lib.org.uk/events/sla-conference-2025-tg4/

Browse all our upcoming events on our website: www.m25lib.org.uk/events/

New member: British Psychotherapy Foundation

[British Psychotherapy Foundation](#) (BPF) is a new M25 Consortium scholarly library member. The BPF is a charity, membership organisation, and training provider for psychoanalytic psychotherapy and Jungian analysis. Their mission is to ensure psychotherapy is available to as many people who need it as possible. With over 750 members, they are one of the largest psychotherapy membership and training organisations in the UK.



BPF provides training for those wishing to gain a psychotherapist's qualification (ranging from pre-qualification courses, to a doctorate) through high-quality, intensive clinical training programmes. They have around 400 part-time trainees. They also publish the British Journal of Psychotherapy,

The BPF's library is in a large room on the ground floor, and holds a wide selection of psychotherapy texts and useful eResources. Polly Mortimer, the Library Manager says:

"We are fully a library two days a week and share with teaching sessions the rest of the week. It is a

healthy, well-supported space, and much appreciated by trainees, staff and members. We have two library staff; I am Library Manager and Eleanor O'Donovan is Assistant Librarian.

We belong to a local library group PLUG (Psychotherapy Librarians Umbrella Group) and meet three times a year. We also belong to CHILL (Independent Health Libraries in London). British Psychotherapy Foundation's Russell Library is named for a friend and colleague Andrew Russell who died in 2023. He always envisioned an accessible library."



Member Survey results

Thank you to those that completed our membership survey. We were pleased to receive 50 responses. The Member Benefits Task & Finish Group will be taking forward actions over the next few months and then we will be able to share results with members.

As a taster, we are pleased to report that respondents highly valued these benefits of membership:

- Learning sector-specific knowledge and skills at cpd25 training events and M25 briefings and conferences (68% respondents)
- Building and maintain professional networks (62% respondents)
- Visiting other libraries (62%)
- Being part of a recognised, respected and influential regional organisation dedicated to supporting a diverse range of libraries (54%)
- Exchanging ideas and best practice informally with colleagues at other institutions informally (54%)

What's happening at the M25 Consortium's Annual Conference?

**24 June 2025, Old Royal Naval College,
University of Greenwich
10am-4.25pm**

We're excited to hear Lawrie Phipps and Donna Lanclos open the conference with a thought-provoking Keynote. Alongside our exhibitors, we have a great range of speakers providing enlightening presentations, informative parallel sessions and relevant lightning talks. We're also pleased to have members presenting



posters and delegates can take part in our Vox Pops in the breaks.

Plus there'll be plenty of opportunities for informal networking. And it all takes place in the grand setting of the Queen Anne Building on the Old Royal Naval College Campus by the River Thames in Greenwich.

Exclusively for conference delegates, we've also arranged a [library visit](#) at 4.45pm to the University of Greenwich's Stockwell Street Library, part of an award-winning building in the centre of Greenwich.

After all that, before heading home, delegates could take a leisurely walk through the splendour of Greenwich Park or enjoy a post-Conference drink by the riverside.

Visit the event page to read more about our speakers and their presentations.

Want to join us? Register now, first member place free!

M25 member institutions get one free place.

Managers: it's a great professional development opportunity to give to a member of your library team.

Don't forget that you still need to register to attend with your free member place. There are also discounts available for group bookings.

Find out more and register here:

page: www.m25lib.org.uk/events/m25-annual-conference-2025-shaping-the-future/

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[Leadership Briefing: How can libraries add value to the student experience agenda?](#)

6 June, 10am-1pm

Royal College of Nursing, London

Lunch provided

There's still time to register for our next

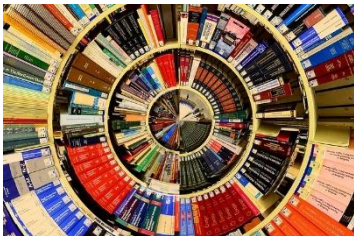
Leadership Briefing which will take a closer look at the student experience agenda.

With an increased need to demonstrate impact and value for money, this event will look at how libraries can add value to the student experience – whether measured by specific NSS, TEF or APP agendas or within contexts including retention and continuation, belonging, welcome and induction and the interplay between academic and professional services.

M25 Consortium members receive one free place per institution for *each* Leadership Briefing event. Additional places cost £75.

Register here:

www.m25lib.org.uk/events/leadership-briefing-how-can-libraries-add-value-to-the-student-experience-agenda/



In the back office

As well as undertaking our regular M25 service and activities and running the cpd25 programme, this month, the support staff and trustees have been:

- organising and promoting the annual conference, including liaising with our lightning talk speakers
 - connecting to other library services through our Bluesky account: @m25consortium.bsky.social. If your library service is on Bluesky, why not follow us or repost our updates?
 - adding two of our recently approved policies to the M25 website: Data Protection & Privacy and Complaints. You can find them in 'About the Consortium' section of our website: <https://www.m25lib.org.uk/about-the-consortium/>
 - undertaking governance work, including updating our details with the Charity Commission and Companies House
 - along with our Member Benefits Task & Finish Group, analysing the results of the Member Survey
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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 Dan Herbert.

Dan is the Library Buildings Development Manager at Queen Mary, University of London, a post which involves broad liaison, not only with library colleagues, but also with senior managers across the university, students and student union representatives, colleagues in estates, university security staff, suppliers and contractors. Head over to our website to find out what Dan values about the activities of the M25 and what he would be doing if he wasn't working in library services.



Be the next M25 SpeedMeet person

There's a huge range of roles and activities among library staff working in M25 member institutions. Do you want to share yours (and promote the work of your library at the same time)? Send an email to m25libadmin@london.ac.uk.

Press play for a profile

We welcome recordings. You don't have to write your answers. Instead, why not send us

a recording and we'll share it (via our private YouTube account) on our website.

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: <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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