News

Ann Rossiter appointed as Chief Executive, MillionPlus

Ann Rossiter Executive Director, will be leaving SCONUL to take up her appointment as Chief Executive at MillionPlus. Ann who joined SCONUL in 2010 has done an amazing job transforming the organisation and we would like to wish Ann the very best in her new role. Read more

SCONUL Summer Conference and AGM 2017

SCONUL is pleased to announce that its conference will be held from the evening of Monday 5 June until Wednesday 7 June in Newcastle at the Hilton Newcastle Gateshead, Bottle Bank, Gateshead NE8 2AR. The theme of the conference is the future for academic libraries and delegates will hear about the challenges the next five years might hold for the HE sector overall. Further details will be available shortly.

Bell Review published

On 31 January, Universities UK published the Bell review of UK higher education sector agencies. It's most significant recommendation is a proposed new body that will bring together the functions of the Equality Challenge Unit, the Higher Education Academy and the Leadership Foundation for HE, in a new body to provide development services in areas of strategic importance. This body is intended to enable reduced aggregated subscriptions. Read more

LIBER Emerging Leaders Programme: Deadline for Applications extended until 12 February

The application deadline for the LIBER Emerging Leaders programme, which is aimed at the next generation of senior leaders, has been extended until 12 February. This will be the fourth cohort of Emerging Leaders targeted at people who are already in positions of senior management but who wish to do more to enhance their leadership qualities in preparation for the step up to the next big challenge – that of taking responsibility for leading an organisation through changing times. Read more

Jisc Call for participation – supporting acquisitions of digital archival collections

Jisc plans to design a new service to support Higher Education institutions to develop a more strategic approach to the acquisition of digital archival collections. They are inviting up to 12 HE libraries to participate in a pilot to help identify, specify, and quantify information and data which supports a more informed decision-making process. Participating institutions will be expected to provide sample library data, attend two face-2-face workshops and up to three webinars, and provide input into the design of the service. Read more

HEPI publish report on technology enhanced higher education

HEPI has published a report entitled "Rebooting learning for the digital age: What next for technology enhanced higher education?" which has been produced by Paul Feldman, Sarah Davies and Joel Mulland from Jisc. The report highlights some of the key areas in which digital technology can support efforts by higher education leaders and policymakers to boost student outcomes and enhance the student experience. Read more

Feedback sought on the Pearson e-textbook pilot agreement

Jisc Collections has a pilot agreement in place for the Pearson e-textbooks and is undertaking research on this agreement which will feed into both the renewal of the Pearson agreement and negotiations with other e-textbook publishers. Jisc Collections asks institutions participating in the pilot agreement to provide feedback by completing this survey. In addition, they are asking institutions which didn't participate to complete a survey exploring why this wasn't appropriate for them. Responses to the surveys are anonymised and any feedback to Pearson will therefore also be anonymised. Some data will be used for public dissemination, e.g. published article, consortia to consortia discussions etc. but will take the form of general themes.

Applications for LFHE Future Professional Directors due by Friday 3 March

The deadline for applications for the next cohort on the Future Professional Directors programme is 3 March. University of Hertfordshire will be a partner delivering a live case study in which participants will work with the university team to analyse the potential for developing this approach further in transforming key university agendas such as widening participation. Read more

Open Access Good Practice handbook and final report now available

Following the end of the Open Access Good Practice initiative last year, a handbook and final report to capture lessons learned have been produced. The handbook summarises the lessons learned by the projects and points towards key tools and resources that have been produced. It is aimed at staff involved in supporting open access implementation at their institutions in the UK. The final report summarises the initiative, the individual pathfinder projects, their activities, outputs and impact. A comprehensive list of the resources produced as part of the initiative is also available.

Mercian Collaboration website launches

The Mercian Collaboration has formally launched its website, to provide information for academic library staff throughout the UK Midlands region. The Mercian Collaboration is a professional network formed from SCONUL higher education libraries in the East and West Midlands of the UK. Its aspirations include seeking to provide a space for members to work together in exploring training and development opportunities, along with exploring potential operational efficiencies. Supported by the Mercian Collaboration Development Officer, and in partnership with SCONUL, the Collaboration has been in existence since mid-2014. Read more

US Research Libraries and University Presses Oppose Trump's Immigration Order

The Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and the Association of American University Presses (AAUP) have announced that they stand unequivocally opposed to President Trump's recent executive order temporarily barring entry into the US by individuals from seven countries. Read more

A Million Decisions campaign

Launched on 30 January 'A Million Decisions' is jointly led by CILIP, the library and information association, and Health Education England (HEE), who work together to support decision-makers and those delivering health services to make good use of library and knowledge skills to meet their obligations under the Act. The campaign will remind health service leaders in England of their responsibility to ensure evidence-based practice under the Health and Social Care Act1. It highlights the beneficial outcomes when healthcare services are planned and delivered with input from dedicated health librarians and knowledge services. Read more

New Trustees appointed to the Board of The National Library of Wales

The Welsh Economy and Infrastructure Secretary, Ken Skates, and Rhodri Glyn Thomas, President, The National Library of Wales, have announced the appointment of three new members to the Library's Board of Trustees. The Welsh Government has appointed Mr Steve Williams (University Librarian and
Head of Libraries, Archives, Culture and Arts, Swansea University), and the Library has appointed Mr Gwilym Dyfri Jones and Dr Tomos Dafydd Davies. The term of office of all three will begin on 1 February, and their period of appointment will last for four years. Read more

Jisc Collections Content Strategy Group election - Jisc Band 2 constituency

The Jisc Collections Content Strategy Group has issued a call for nominations for a representative in Jisc Band 2. This follows the resignation Kate Price, Associate Director (Collections & Research Support) at King's College London, in late January due to taking on a new role at another university which will take her out of the Jisc Band 2 constituency. If you are from an institution in Band 2, and would like to be considered for nomination or wish to nominate a colleague please e-mail carolyn.alderson@jisc.ac.uk by **Friday 24 February**. The new member will have particular responsibility for representing the constituency group of libraries in Jisc Band 2. Jisc Collections manages the communications with members and their constituent groups. The term of office is three years with the possibility to stand for a further term. The group meets four times a year; the next meeting is 15-16 May. Read more

The Information Literacy Awards

The Librarians Information Literacy Annual Conference (LILAC) and CILIP Information Literacy Group are inviting nominations for the 2017 Information Literacy Awards – the UK's most prestigious awards in this field. **The Information Literacy Award** recognises an outstanding contribution from an information literacy practitioner or researcher. **The Credo Digital Award for Information Literacy** recognises a digital resource, programme or service which made a significant impact in 2016. **The Student Award.** Our award for newly qualifying professionals consists of LILAC conference registration, travel and accommodation expenses for two students registered on a UK study programme. The awards will be presented at LILAC 2017 in Swansea on 11 April. Read more

Appointments and job opportunities

If you have moved to a new role or institution or have any senior job opportunities that you would like us to include, please e-mail SitMui.Ng@sconul.ac.uk.

Appointment: Queen Mary, University of London

Queen Mary University of London has appointed Kate Price as the next Head of Library Services. She will begin her role from 1 June 2017. Kate's remit will include scholarly communication, trans-national education, digital engagement, curriculum development and the implementation of the new Library Services Platform. Kate joins QMUL from King's College London, where she held the position of Associate Director (Collections & Research Support). During her time at King's she was responsible for the development and management of academic collections in all formats, including open access, research data, special collections and archives.

Vacancy: Subject Librarian, Swansea University

Swansea University Libraries is looking to appoint a Subject Librarian (4 days a week) in Management and Engineering. The post holder will work in their teams of Academic Liaison and Subject Librarians, supporting the full range of academic and research activity within the School of Management and the College of Engineering. **Closing date 21 February** Read more

Events

A calendar of events for HE library directors in the UK, Ireland, and abroad is published on the SCONUL website. The dates of important internal and external meetings are also captured on the calendar. If you would like SCONUL to include any events that may be of interest to directors, please email sconul@sconul.ac.uk. Read more

Promoting Excellent Research - Learning from REF2014 and Implementing the Stern Review, London, 14 February

Accessibility and eContent: is it fit for purpose for the 21st Century user?, London, 24 February

Engaging communities: AMOSSHE winter conference 2017, Manchester, 17 February

Researcher to Reader Conference 2017, 20-21 February

RLUK Conference 2017: The future of research, London, 8-10 March

Jisc Digifest 2017, Birmingham, 14-15 March

Open Science Conference 2017, Berlin, 21-22 March

Research Excellence & Publishing – Open Access, Data, Copyright Impact, London, 3 April

Annual UKSG Conference and Exhibition, Harrogate, 10-12 April

LILAC 2017, Swansea, 10-12 April

A new vision for the future of public libraries: progress, strategy, innovation and collaboration, London, 18 May

9th International Conference on Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries, Limerick, 23-26 May

CONUL annual conference, Athlone, 30-31 May

SCONUL annual conference and AGM 2017, Newcastle, 5-7 June

UXLibs III, Glasgow, 6-7 June

Next Library® Festival, Aarhus, Denmark, 11-14 June

6th Information, Interactions and Impact (i3) conference, Aberdeen, 27-30 June

LIBER Annual Conference, Greece, 5-7 July

12th International Conference on Performance Measurement in Libraries, Oxford, 31 July-2 August