

News

Libraries after Lockdown: Choice and personalisation in blended learning, 1 March

This next event in the Libraries after Lockdown project will be held on Tuesday 1 March, 14.00-16.00. The rapid acceleration of new modes of teaching and learning as a result of the pandemic has provided new insights into student preferences around blended learning – and how that can differ by learning style, discipline, and background. Attendees will hear from Charlotte Snelling, Policy Manager, UUK, Gayatri Shewani, Vice-President (Education), Lancaster University Students' Union, Mark Stubbs, Professor and Head of Learning and Research Technologies, Manchester Metropolitan University and Robin Gibson, Marketing Director, Kortext. You can find out more and register [here](#).

Libraries after Lockdown: Alternative Approaches to Discovery, 22 March

This event in the Libraries after Lockdown project will be held on Tuesday 22 March 15.00-16.30. Libraries are now as much about connecting their users with content as they are about curating it. In this session we shall hear from Martine Pronk, Head of Academic Services, University of Utrecht, about the innovative approach to discovery taken at their library, a Library which does not promote a traditional library catalogue or discovery layer. The session will also hear from Andrea Chiarelli, Senior Consultant, Research Consulting about the wider discovery landscape, in particular in relation to user workflows and the open access information ecosystem. The Libraries after Lockdown programmes are open to all staff at SCONUL member institutions. You can find out more and register [here](#).

Libraries after Lockdown: Embracing new ways of working post-pandemic, 31 March

This event in the Libraries after Lockdown project will be held on Thursday 31 March 11.00-13.00. As well as creating new challenges, the pandemic has served to highlight long-standing pressures faced by those leading libraries in developing their workforce. Increasingly we will be demanding an agile and flexible workforce which brings the skills and attributes needed to meet the changes that are taking place within the institution. But what levers are available to the leadership within libraries to support people to develop their skills, attributes and experience to allow them to meet these challenges and to progress? How can we foster the capacity of staff to move between the library and other parts of the university; between institutions; and between sectors? How can we support staff to take charge of their own careers? The Libraries after Lockdown programmes are open to all staff at SCONUL member institutions. You can find out more and register [here](#).

Libraries after Lockdown: Recruitment lifecycle parts 1 and 2 survey

As part of the Libraries after Lockdown programme, SCONUL are holding two events exploring innovation and good practice across all aspects of the recruitment lifecycle to develop the diverse, skilled and adaptable workforce that libraries need. Part 1 will look at the process of attracting applicants including job specifications; advertising for posts; and longlisting. Part 2 will look at interviews and alternatives to interview; interview approaches and techniques; shortlisting (including blind shortlisting, making job offers and managing questions around flexible working. Both events will include considerations of diverse recruitment and recruitment for diversity. In advance of the events, we are asking members to share information about their own recruitment practices through a short survey which you can find here: <https://forms.gle/jdRxa3VUxiaGu6uF7>. The closing date for the survey is 8 March. Further details about the events will be available shortly.

Organisational development CIG: Meeting 2 Addressing the Challenges, 10 March

SCONUL's Organisational development Community of Interest Group will be running an online event on Thursday 10 March 10.30-12.00. In their first meeting the group examined topics such as hybrid working, staff returning to the workplace and how to attract new and diverse talent. In this meeting the group will address some of these challenges in more detail. They will consider the impact to the organisation, how different organisations approach the challenges and how the group can provide support in tackling them. There will be an opportunity for attendees to meet in small breakout groups, to share experience and to feed back to colleagues in this friendly, informal environment. If you are not a member of the

group and would like to attend this meeting please register or contact [David Clay](#) or [Janet Corcoran](#) for further information. [Read more](#)

Date for diaries: SCONUL AGM

SCONUL will be holding its AGM and members meeting on the afternoon of Wednesday 13 July, via Zoom. Further details will be available in due course.

Delivering blended learning CIG: Lightning Talk event recording

SCONUL's Delivering blended learning Community of Interest Group recently held a Lightning Talks event. These provided an opportunity to share recent experiences of blended learning. Speakers talked about different approaches as well as reflecting on the use of specific tools and techniques within the blended learning environment. To view the event recording please login to the Libraries after Lockdown event platform with your existing credentials. If you need to register for access to the event platform please email sconul@sconul.ac.uk.

SCONUL Library Design Awards – postponed for 2022

The SCOUNL Executive has taken the difficult decision to postpone the Library Design Awards due to be held this year. With consideration for little building work having taken place in 2020 and 2021, postponing the awards will allow a fairer representation of design approaches in the sector. It is also an opportunity to look at the potential for new criteria so keep an eye out for more information.

The Jisc/OCLC National Metadata Agreement

Jisc and OCLC have signed an agreement that means academic and specialist libraries across the UK will have better access to fit-for-purpose catalogue records, and an enhanced ability to share and reuse bibliographic metadata. Building on the aims of [Plan M](#) and the recommendations coming out of the 'Remodelling the Library Data Marketplace' consultancy work, this agreement will allow subscribing libraries to access OCLC WorldCat cataloguing services, and will enable all users of the Jisc Library Hub Cataloguing service to download full OCLC records. It also increases the global visibility of subscribing libraries by enabling catalogue data to be shared with WorldCat. [Read more](#)

UKRI and Jisc publish requirements for transitional agreements, transformative journals and green agreements

Jisc and UKRI have published details of the requirements for transitional agreements, transformative journals and green agreements to comply with UKRI policy. They are available at:

- Transitional (<https://www.jisc.ac.uk/content/open-access/our-role#transitional>)
- Transformative journals (<https://www.jisc.ac.uk/content/open-access/our-role#transformative-journals>)
- Native open access publishers (<https://www.jisc.ac.uk/content/open-access/our-role#native>)
- Compliant green (<https://www.jisc.ac.uk/content/open-access/our-role#green>)

The UKRI's statement and policy pages are here: <https://www.ukri.org/news/ukri-publishes-guidance-and-resources-for-new-open-access-policy/>

UKRI Open Access Policy: new guidance published ahead of 1 April 2022

UKRI has published additional guidance and resources to support funded research organisations and researchers to be ready for the organisation's new open access policy, which applies to research articles from 1 April 2022.

- [Updated policy document and a supplementary FAQ](#)
- [Guidance for authors](#)
- [No-derivatives licence exception process and guidance](#)
- [Information pack for research organisations to use to engage researchers](#)
- [Updated information about our implementation activities](#), including activities UKRI is funding Jisc to undertake. Information can also be found on [Jisc's website](#).

The new open access requirements for monographs, book chapters and edited collections apply from January 2024. Over the course of 2022, UKRI will be [working with stakeholders](#) on implementation and publishing further information. [Read more](#)

Launch: Research Engagement Programme for academic libraries

Research Libraries UK (RLUK) and the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) are working in partnership with the Association of Research Managers and Administrators (ARMA) to deliver a multifaceted Research Engagement Programme (REP) for academic libraries. The programme consists of a tailored cohort training programme, open events, case studies, and resources to support colleagues working across the academic library community to develop their research confidence, skills and capabilities. The programme is open to colleagues working within both RLUK and non-RLUK member institutions, and colleagues working within any unit or department within an academic library can apply. [Read more](#)

Research Catalyst Cohort programme: Applications open

Applications are now open to join a tailored cohort training programme for academic libraries. The training programme will be delivered between April 2022 and February 2023 to a small cohort of academic and research library colleagues, and will support them to envisage, develop, and submit highly-competitive funding applications to research funders. It will provide participants with an overview of the academic funding landscape, offer a tailored programme of events, activities, and mentoring opportunities to guide them through making a funding application, and enable them to share this knowledge within their institutions and with the wider library community (via taking a “train-the-trainer” approach). Applications will close at 17.00 on Friday 11 March. [Read more](#)

Libraries after Lockdown recordings

Recordings of all previous Libraries after Lockdown events are available to view on the events platform. If you were unable to attend or to stay online or simply want to re-visit the various discussions, login to the event site with your existing credentials. You will also find materials referenced, including transcripts of the event chat with your comments and questions on the event page under ‘resources’.

Available recordings:

From Adaptive Practice to Service Redesign

- Shared international perspectives on libraries’ responses to the pandemic, 29 March
- The campus experience post Covid: what does this mean for library spaces?, 5 July
- Small and specialist institutions post-pandemic, 15 July
- Blended Learning and the Shape and Design of Library Services, 29 September

The Dynamic Workforce

- The library workforce post-pandemic: exchange of experience, 12 July
- Developing a resilient and agile workforce, 26 November

Embracing Disruption

- ILL and its strategic uses for academic and research libraries, 16 July

The Libraries after Lockdown programmes are open to all staff at SCONUL member institutions. You can find out more and register [here](#).

Updates from our peer organisations:

1. Academic Libraries North <https://www.academiclibrariesnorth.ac.uk/>
2. CONUL <https://conul.ie/news/>
3. LIBER <https://libereurope.eu/news/>
4. M25 Consortium of Academic Libraries <https://www.m25lib.ac.uk/about-the-consortium/newsletter-archive/>
5. Mercian Collaboration <https://merciancollaboration.org.uk/news>
6. RLUK <https://www.rluk.ac.uk/rluk-bulletin/>
7. SCURL <https://www.scurl.ac.uk/news>
8. ucisa <https://www.ucisa.ac.uk/News-and-Views>
9. WHELFF <https://whelf.ac.uk/>

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.

Vacancy: Deputy Director of Library Services, Loughborough University

Loughborough University are currently advertising for a Deputy Director of Library Services. Reporting to the Director of Library Services & University Librarian and, working with four Service Leads as part of the Library Leadership Team, this role will play a key role in the strategic development of library services. The successful candidate will have leadership and management experience and the ability to collaborate, influence and lead change. **Closing date 27 February** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Academic Liaison Librarian (User Education & Cataloguing), Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance

Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance are seeking an Academic Liaison Librarian (User Education & Cataloguing). This part-time, permanent role will be based at The Laban Library & Archive, supporting programmes within the Faculty of Dance. The role combines academic liaison and user education (including contributing to developing our research skills programme) as part of a small team and has functional responsibility for cataloguing. Other duties include regular enquiry work, user support, reading list management, circulation tasks, collection development as well as the line management of one Library Assistant. **Closing date 27 February** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Head of User Experience and Engagement, University of East London

University of East London are looking to appoint a Head of User Experience and Engagement. The post holder will assist the Assistant Chief Operating Officer (Service Excellence) & Director in providing high-quality, user focused library, archives and learning services to UEL's diverse learning and research communities, both on and off campus. As a member of the Library, Archives and Learning Services Senior Management Team, they will play a key role in the strategic planning and development of the whole service in accordance with the university's equality and diversity policies. **Closing date 6 March** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Library Systems Coordinator, UWE Bristol

UWE Bristol are looking for a Library Systems Coordinator. This is a key role, based in the Collections Team, but collaborates with colleagues across Library Services and the wider Library, Careers and Inclusivity department to implement and maintain library systems across multiple platforms. The post holder will primarily work with the Central ITS and Library Project team to migrate to the new system, with specific responsibility for ensuring colleagues across the service are trained and supported. **Closing date 20 March** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Assistant Librarian (Collection Services), University College Cork

UCC Library wishes to appoint to the role of Collection Services Librarian as part of a team with responsibility for leading, coordinating and implementing the print collection management activities and services to support Library and University strategic aims. The post holder will refine and preserve print collections in response to user needs, digital growth, and in keeping with a contemporary academic library. **Closing date 22 March** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Research Data Steward, University College Cork

UCC Library wishes to appoint to the role of Research Data Steward. Reporting to the Head of Research Services and working closely with the Research Data Coordinator, the Research Data Steward will play an important role in growing the service offering. This role will ensure excellent support for UCC researchers in relation to the development of data management plans and add capacity to the team in terms of providing additional targeted supports for curation and deposit of data in line with the FAIR Principles. The post holder will work collaboratively with researchers and research units, and with other internal units including IT Services, Research Support Services, and the Office of Corporate and Legal Affairs, and the University Ethics Committee. The successful candidate will also work closely with library colleagues on the implementation of best practices in data curation, metadata description, data storage, archiving and preservation. **Closing date 22 March** [Read more](#)

SCONUL services

SCONUL Access

The SCONUL Access Scheme allows library users to access study spaces, books and journals at other libraries within the scheme. Over 160 institutions across the UK and Ireland participate in the Access Scheme providing a valuable resource for the sector. We understand that managing SCONUL Access has been challenging in recent, restricted times, and sincerely appreciate everyone's commitment to the Scheme's fundamental ethos of reciprocal access.

SCONUL community of interest groups

SCONUL, supported by Jisc, have launched [community of interest groups \(CIGs\)](#) addressing key Libraries after Lockdown areas: Delivering blended learning (looking at libraries' role in supporting their institutions); Embracing disruption: emerging technologies and systems (looking at new technologies and innovative uses of existing technologies); and Organisational development (looking at roles, skills and the nature of our work post-pandemic). [Read more](#)

SCONUL Consultants register (Newly updated!)

The Consultants Register aims to assist members in identifying consultants working in the academic library sphere. The register currently lists 17 consultants and is divided into the following categories:

- buildings and refurbishment
- facilitation
- information law
- library systems and technologies
- research services
- staff training and support
- strategy and service reviews.

You can contact consultants directly as befits your needs – the register can be found [here](#). Please note that while the consultants listed have an excellent track record of working with SCONUL members, their inclusion should not be taken as an endorsement by SCONUL. The SCONUL Office also recommends that credentials and references are checked when using consultants in any sphere.

SCONUL Deputies and New Directors Groups

Knowledge and experience sharing is invaluable, especially in times of change, and SCONUL Director's and Deputy Director's groups speak directly to this need. Self-sustaining informal networks of peers, they provide a forum for brainstorming and discussion of ideas, developments and problems. E-mail Liyana Pama, Member Engagement Manager liyana.pama@sconul.ac.uk if you are interested in joining a Director's or Deputies group.

SCONUL Mentoring scheme

Library leaders are being required to deliver across an ever increasing range of areas. SCONUL mentoring partnerships, for emerging or newly appointed leaders, are an opportunity for guidance, professional and personal growth to help develop leadership capacity. If you are interested in mentoring or being mentored, find out more [here](#).

SCONUL Statistics

The SCONUL Statistics provide a detailed picture of the workings of a core university function, providing a benchmarking and strategic planning tool for library leaders and demonstrating trends and developments to the wider sector. You can find more information [here](#) and the next full annual return will be published in July 2022.

Events

If you would like SCONUL to include any events that may be of interest to directors, please e-mail sconul@sconul.ac.uk.

Westminster HE Forum: Next steps for the Advanced Research and Invention Agency, 25 February

Libraries after Lockdown: Choice and personalisation in blended learning, 1 March

Westminster HE Forum: Next steps for the Research Excellence Framework, 11 March

Libraries after Lockdown: Alternative Approaches to Discovery, 22 March

Libraries after Lockdown: Embracing new ways of working post-pandemic, 31 March

Westminster Media Forum: The future for intellectual property and copyright regulation in the UK, 8 April

LILAC 2022, 11-13 April, Manchester

The Technician Commitment and the role of research and academic libraries, 27 April

2022 CONUL Annual Conference: Library. Now – Welcome to the future, 25-26 May, Limerick

UKSG 45th Annual Conference and Exhibition, 30 May-1 June, Telford

User Experience in Libraries conference 2022, 6-8 June, Newcastle

International Digital Curation Conference, 13-16 June

SCONUL Small and Specialist Institutions' Forum, 16 June

Call for Papers: Academic Libraries North Conference 2022, 6-7 July

SCONUL Small and Specialist Institutions' Forum, 13 October