News

SCONUL says goodbye to Liyana

In May SCONUL will be saying goodbye to Liyana Pama, who joined SCONUL in 2021. SCONUL would like to thank Liyana for her excellent work over the last year and wish her well for the future.

Libraries after Lockdown: AI for libraries: Part 1 – Libraries as AI customer, 5 May

This next event in the Libraries after Lockdown project will be held on Thursday 5 May, 11.00 – 13.00hrs. AI tools are already in use across HE, including in libraries, and have the power to deliver improved user experiences for students and academic staff through, for example, chat services and improved and personalised recommender and discovery services. They also offer the possibility of making better use of our own user data; content creation and surfacing collections through innovative approaches to metadata generation and use. Some libraries will choose to create their own projects and tools, but for others our primary engagement with the new technologies will be as customers. This event will consider what it means to engage critically with these technologies and the possibilities and challenges that they offer. What tools do we need to assess value? How do we ensure that the products and underlying data sets we employ are ethically grounded? What do we need to do to ensure that our workforce is AI literate to an appropriate level? 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: From research service provider to research partner, 24 May

This event in the Libraries after Lockdown project will be held on Tuesday 24 May, 10.00 – 12.00hrs. The session will cover the library's evolving role in relation to research more widely, including moving from a focus on compliance to the library's role in developing research culture. The Libraries after Lockdown programmes are open to all staff at SCONUL member institutions. You can find out more and register here.

Date for diaries: Libraries after Lockdown conference, 16 September, London

We are holding the first face to face event for SCONUL members on 16 September since the start of the pandemic. This will be an opportunity to catch up with colleagues, to consider the outcomes of the Libraries after Lockdown research and events programme and to look ahead at priorities for the sector over the next three years. It will be a full day conference and is taking place at the British Library. Please hold the date.

SCONUL Members meeting and AGM, 13 July

SCONUL is pleased to announce that Heidi Fraser-Krauss, Chief Executive Officer, Jisc, will deliver a keynote presentation at its member's meeting on Wednesday 13 July, 14.00 – 16.00hrs, via Zoom. SCONUL is developing its strategy for the next three years (2023-2025) and the discussion will look ahead at challenges and opportunities for the sector. Attendees will have an opportunity to hear from Heidi on these issues from Jisc's perspective. The meeting includes our AGM which will provide the usual opportunities for members to engage with SCONUL's work and to review our programmes for last year, this year and next year. Please email sconul@sconul.ac.uk for registration details.

Thriving in your career, 10 June - travel and accommodation bursaries

Academic Libraries North is hosting Thriving in your career on Friday 10 June, 09:30 – 16:00hrs. This free event is a rare opportunity for BAME colleagues and students to come together face-to-face in a collaborative and supportive environment. Taking the mantle from the successful Talent Untapped: BAME Academic Librarians' Knowledge X that took place at UEL in 2019, this will be an opportunity for people who identify as belonging to an ethnic minority background to come together to share experiences, be inspired and create a sense of community. The event will be held at Manchester Metropolitan University and the link to register is here: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/thriving-in-your-career-a-face-to-face-event-for-bame-colleagues-tickets-304648189937. SCONUL, ALN and RLUK are pleased to be able to offer bursaries to attend this conference. If you would like to attend but travel and accommodation costs would be a barrier to doing so, please do apply. To apply please

email academiclibrariesnorth@sconul.ac.uk, using the email subject 'ALN sponsored places' and include the following information:

- Your name, job title and name of institution if you belong to one
- Maximum 250 words on why you feel attending the event will be beneficial to you
- Your thoughts on how you might share your experiences before, during and after the event.

Deadline for applications is by Friday 13 May. Read more

UKRI OA Policy update

UKRI has published further updates on its OA policy which is available here: Open access policy update – UKRI. From 1 April 2022, authors and research organisations will be able to check to see whether journals offer publishing options that enable compliance with the UKRI open access policy via the Journal Checker Tool, which will be developed further in response to feedback from the sector.

New community channel for UKRI OA policy implementation

Jisc have set up a secure place where you can post questions, share information and learn from Jisc and others around UKRI OA policy implementation. This channel is only open to institutions and Jisc have initially housed it within their Digital Research Community site. Jisc will monitor the channel, answer questions where they can and support the sharing of ideas and information. If the use of the channel requires it, they will create further subject-based channels. To request to join the Digital Research Community Teams channel please fill out this form: https://bit.ly/DRCjoinrequest

Collaborating to support Ukrainian institutions, academics, staff and students

SCONUL is working with partners across the library community to support Ukrainian academics, researchers, students and staff both in Ukraine and displaced. RLUK, Jisc, The British Library, CILIP, SCONUL, the Archives and Records Association and diverse others are part of a library advisory group supporting the UUK Ukraine Response Taskforce and also working with stakeholders, including publishers, to facilitate access to content and other forms of research. For more information on the various initiatives, please see our dedicated Ukraine Response webpage here. Please see here for our Statement of solidarity with library professionals in Ukraine.

'Engaging Libraries' public and HE libraries' collaboration concludes: report released

A report on the Carnegie UK, Wellcome and Wolfson Foundation 'Engaging Libraries Phase 2' programme has now been released. The programme supported public libraries' collaboration with higher education partners to deliver public engagement activities. Despite Covid challenges to an extensive events programme, 'Engaging Libraries' delivered over 300 events/activities and was well received by the more than 12,000 participants it engaged. Read more

New RLUK report: Virtual Reading Rooms and Virtual Teaching Spaces amongst collection-holding institutions

Research Libraries UK (RLUK) has published a new major research report exploring the current and future developments in the area of *Virtual Reading Rooms (VRRs) and Virtual Teaching Spaces (VTSs) amongst collection-holding institutions*. This report presents the results of a recent survey launched by RLUK, in collaboration with members of the International Alliance of Research Library Associations (IARLA). This work informs an ongoing piece of research being undertaken by RLUK regarding the potential of VRRs as digital research infrastructure and the possibilities and benefits of undertaking a networked approach. Read more

Mercian Collaboration Annual Report 2021

The Mercian Collaboration has published its 2021 Annual. The report is designed to provide insight into the Collaboration, their activities and those of their various subgroups throughout 2021. 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

- Choice and personalisation in blended learning, 1 March 2022
- Blended Learning and the Shape and Design of Library Services, 29 September 2021
- Small and specialist institutions post-pandemic, 15 July 2021
- The campus experience post Covid: what does this mean for library spaces?, 5 July 2021
- Shared international perspectives on libraries' responses to the pandemic, 29 March 2021

The Dynamic Workforce

- Embracing new ways of working post-pandemic, 31 March
- Developing a resilient and agile workforce, 26 November 2021
- The library workforce post-pandemic: exchange of experience, 12 July 2021

Embracing Disruption

- Repositories and beyond – the evolving landscape, 29 April 2022
- Alternative Approaches to Discovery, 22 March 2022
- ILL and its strategic uses for academic and research libraries, 16 July 2021

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. WHELF 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: Library Systems Manager, Coventry University
Coventry University are looking for a Library Systems Manager. The post holder will play a key role in developing an outstanding customer journey through the digital library environments for the whole Coventry University Group. The ability to solve challenging technical problems and plan and manage change are essential attributes for this role. Working under the guidance of the Head of Library Systems, the post holder will undertake direct operational responsibility for configuring and maintaining the library management and discovery systems (currently Alma/Primo). The Library Systems Manager will also be expected to implement, support, and evolve a wide range of library systems, including laptop loans, enquiry, and customer information systems (currently through the Springshare group of applications). **Closing date 6 May** Read more

Vacancy: Assistant Customer Services Manager, Cardiff University
Cardiff University Library Service is recruiting for the role of Assistant Customer Services Manager. The Assistant Customer Services Manager supports the provision of front-line library services, both on-site and remote. The role holder will lead on a number of service areas ensuring that they are meeting customer needs, regularly monitoring and evaluating each service to maximise their effectiveness and exploring trends and innovation across Higher Education in these areas to identify continual improvement. Areas that will be covered by this role will include our online chat service, study space

bookings, laptop loans, IT liaison, open access workstation provision and disability support. **Closing date 7 May** Read more

Vacancy: Assistant Liaison Librarian (CBASS), Brunel University

Brunel University London Library Services, has a new professional opportunity, aimed at recently qualified information professionals, in its respected and friendly Academic Services team of liaison librarians. The post holder will contribute to the development and delivery of high quality and customer-focused library services which support the academic activities of the University and its constituent Colleges. They will be helping to support specified courses and programmes of study within the College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences (CBASS), specifically Brunel Business School (BBS), planning and delivering information literacy sessions, supporting research and participating in relevant committees. **Closing date 8 May** Read more

Vacancy: Assistant Head of Library Services: Research Services, Technological University Dublin

TU Dublin are seeking to appoint an Assistant Head of Library Services: Research Services. Reporting to the Head of Library Services, the post holder will ensure the provision of pro-active leadership, the efficient use of budget and staff resources, and the effective delivery of services. They will contribute to the development and implementation of Library Services' strategy, in alignment with the University's strategic plan. The Assistant Head of Library Services: Research Services will have strategic responsibility for developing and delivering a range of library research services at all stages of the research life cycle in the context of Open Science and Open Research initiatives and ongoing developments in scholarly communication. **Closing date 9 May** Read more

Vacancy: Systems and Digital Services Librarian, Bournemouth University

Bournemouth University are looking for a Systems and Digital Services Librarian to manage and develop the Library and Learning Service (LLS) digital systems, infrastructure and resources. Working collaboratively with LLS colleagues, University stakeholders, and external suppliers, the post holder will proactively identify best practice and lead in the development and implementation of library systems, policies and procedures to enhance the user experience. Bournemouth University are currently upgrading to OCLC Worldshare Management System (WMS), and the post holder will play a key role in the migration project. **Closing date 9 May** Read more

Vacancy: Academic Liaison Librarian (CEDPS), Brunel University

Brunel University London Library Services is seeking an Academic Liaison Librarian. The post holder, you will contribute to the development and delivery of high quality and customer-focused library services which support the academic activities of the University and its constituent Colleges. They will be supporting specified courses and programmes of study within the College of Engineering, Design and Physical Sciences (CEPDS), planning and delivering information literacy sessions, supporting research and participating in relevant committees. **Closing date 9 May** Read more

Vacancy: Digital Skills Advisor(s), University of Wales Trinity Saint David

UWTSD Library and Learning Resources currently has two Digital Skills Advisor roles out for recruitment. The post holder will contribute to the development, planning and delivery of a range of digital capabilities and skills support services designed to meet the needs of university staff and students. This role will require close collaboration and liaison with members of the Digital Services team, as well as liaise with academic and professional services colleagues across the university. These posts will join colleagues in the newly launched DigiCentre, for further details see UWTSD Digital Skills - UWTSD Digital SKills. **Closing date 10 May** Read more

Vacancy: Head of Academic Services, University of Huddersfield

University of Huddersfield are looking for an individual to lead the Academic Services team within the Library. The team delivers key services supporting teaching, learning, research, archives, and records management practice across the University; along with academic liaison, information literacy, research support, collection development/procurement, library systems and archives and records management. As a member of the senior management team of Computing and Library Services the post holder will help develop and deliver the strategy and policies within a customer focussed environment. **Closing date 10 May** Read more

Vacancy: Faculty Librarian, University of South Wales

University of South Wales are seeking a new permanent 0.8 FTE Faculty Librarian, based within the Library Academic Services Team. The new role has arisen due to a successful Health Tender contract awarded to the University, and the resultant expansion of the USW Faculty of Life Sciences & Education. The focus of this role will be on Sport and Chiropractic subject specialisms, and the successful appointee will be joining an established, collaborative and welcoming professional team. **Closing date 10 May** Read more

Vacancy: Digital Services Librarian (Maternity cover), University of Chichester
University of Chichester are currently seeking to recruit a part time Digital Services Librarian to cover a period of maternity leave for up to nine months within the Library Services Department. The post holder will be responsible for supporting the development of the Library's electronic information environment as well as the co-ordination of the Library Management and Self- Issue Systems. They will liaise closely with the Corporate and Elearning Systems team to support and develop services. This role could be an excellent secondment opportunity for University employees wanting to develop their library systems, open access knowledge and skills. **Closing date 13 May** Read more

Vacancy: Open Research Assistant, Aston University
In this newly created role, the post holder will work within Library Services as part of the Open Research Team responsible for supporting and promoting FAIR open research practice at Aston University, including open access workflows. This post will have a specific responsibility for assisting the Open Research Manager in supporting UKRI-funded researchers to comply with the UKRI Open Access Policy, both through the green and gold open access routes (including Read & Publish deals and rights retention). **Closing date 15 May** Read more

Vacancy: Research Data Specialist (Maternity Cover), Aston University
This 12 month maternity cover post will be responsible for supporting Open Research Data at the university; promoting best practice and assisting Aston University researchers to comply with funder open data requirements. The post holder will be responsible for managing Aston's research data deposits via our Eprints data repository and advising the Aston community on best practice around open research data and research data management. **Closing date 15 May** Read more

Vacancy: Librarian – Systems, Discovery and Access, Birmingham City University
Birmingham City University (BCU) have an opportunity for a user-focused, driven and innovative individual to serve as the Librarian – Systems, Discovery and Access for the Library and Learning Resources (L&LR). Working collaboratively with the entire L&LR team and other stakeholders of the BCU community, this post is responsible for the implementation, operational management and continuous service development of library technologies and customer-focused IT services to meet the evolving needs of the library user communities and deliver the strategic direction of optimising engagement with library resources and services. **Closing date 16 May** Read more

Vacancy: Head of Digital Systems, University College Cork
UCC wishes to appoint an experienced administrator to the role of Head of Digital Systems. Reporting to the Director of Library Services, the Head of Digital Systems - Library will lead a team of library and technology specialists in developing UCC Library's digital library infrastructure, metadata services, discovery services, and digital asset management capacity. The post holder will oversee and further develop the following functions: library systems and support services; electronic resources; cataloguing & metadata. The position will define and articulate the vision, strategic directions, and priorities for library systems and digital services in a dynamic environment that values creativity, teamwork, and innovation. **Closing date 19 May** Read more

Vacancy: Head of Research Services, University College Cork
UCC wishes to appoint an experienced administrator to the role of Head of Research Services. Reporting to the Director of Library Services, the Head of Research Services - Library will lead the UCC Library Research Services team in developing and delivering a range of innovative services in support of robust, reproducible, and open research practices. This new portfolio is designed to meet the rapidly developing and increasingly complex needs of researchers operating in a digital research and scholarship environment. It is intricately connected to the University's strategic goals to strengthen UCC's research impact, and the role holder will directly support University-level initiatives in this area. The role holder will become the chief authority in the University on Open Science and by developing expertise in all aspects of OS will lead on the adoption of best practice in all research-related activity.

Closing date 19 May Read more

The Courtauld is seeking a Head of Libraries to lead its library services and collections through an exciting period of renewal. The new Head of Library services will influence the final layout of the refurbished library spaces at Somerset House as well as shaping the services and support Libraries provides to students, academic and gallery staff and the wider public. Working with a team of subject experts and the Courtauld's library collections, the role provides a chance to engage in the wider museum and gallery community as well as with other libraries in London and specialising in art and architecture. **Closing date 20 May** Read more

Events

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

M25 Consortium virtual Annual Conference 2022 "All things being equal: the regional contribution of libraries", 11 May

CILIP North East: Beyond the Horizon, 16 May

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

Neutral Spaces? Inclusion and Belonging in Academic Libraries, 26 May

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

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

Thriving in your career - a free face-to-face event for BAME colleagues and students, 10 June, Manchester

SCURL Annual Conference 2022, 15 June

International Digital Curation Conference, 13-16 June

SCONUL Small and Specialist Institutions' Forum, 16 June

Excluded Voices 2022 – a WHELF Conference, 29 June

Academic Libraries North Conference 2022, 6-7 July

SCONUL AGM and members meeting, 13 July

IFLA World Library & Information Congress, 26-29 July, Dublin

Call for Speakers: Mercian Collaboration - Redefining Engagement Conference 2022, 6 and 7 September

SCONUL Small and Specialist Institutions' Forum, 13 October