

News

Hear about AI at the SCONUL members meeting, 13 July

Professor Jackie Potter, Dean of Academic Innovation, University of Chester, will deliver a keynote presentation at SCONUL's members meeting on Monday 26 June, 14.00 – 16.00hrs, via Zoom. Attendees will have an opportunity to hear from Professor Potter on the impact of AI on teaching and learning at UK universities. The meeting includes our AGM which is an occasion to review SCONUL's work from 2022 – 2023 and engage with plans for next year. Alongside formal business, including Executive Board elections, there will be an opportunity for members to engage with SCONUL's work and to hear from the SCONUL Strategy Groups. For registration information email sconul@sconul.ac.uk.

SCONUL Groups: help shape the future of our sector

Following the publication of the new [SCONUL strategy 2023-26](#), there are a number of exciting opportunities for staff at SCONUL member institutions to join their peers in helping shape the future of our sector through joining one of our working groups. Each of the groups meets around four times a year (three virtual and one face-to-face meeting in the SCONUL office). We are recruiting for members of our Horizons and Organisational Development strategy groups as well as members of our Statistics Group. We are also seeking members for two Task and Finish Groups, one to oversee the review of the statistics and one for the redevelopment of the SCONUL access scheme website. Please contact SitMui.ng@sconul.ac.uk or keep an eye open for the call for expressions of interest which will be issued shortly.

SCONUL Community of Interest Groups

SCONUL will be setting up new Community of Interest Groups across the range of SCONUL's new strategy, following the successful pilot for three community of interest groups which ran from June 2021 until January this year. We are seeking expressions of interest from those who would like to propose subject areas for the new CIGs, and for those who are interest in taking on an official role in running them. Please do email ann.rossiter@sconul.ac.uk to propose topics or express an interest in running a CIG.

HEA Fellowship support

Staff at member institutions who are in the process of applying for any of the four categories of HEA fellowship, or considering doing so, can now contact colleagues from across the SCONUL community who are volunteering to support them in that process. SCONUL has published a register of those offering support which can be found on our website at: <https://www.sconul.ac.uk/page/hea-fellowship-support> (Please note you will need to login to access this webpage. If you need a login please email sconul@sconul.ac.uk). We are also putting together a resource bank which will be published in early June. For more information, please contact Jenelle Negraeff at Jenelle.Negraeff@sconul.ac.uk

Wiley statement regarding ProQuest titles access

Following the abrupt (and subsequently reversed) decision to remove c. 1,400 titles from ProQuest last autumn, Wiley have published the following update: *“Wiley intends to keep the current collection of titles available in ProQuest Academic Complete through at least December 2026, based on our current agreement. We continue to work with ProQuest to expand the range of titles available. Any changes to the collection will be communicated through ProQuest's regular updates.”* For further information see <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/library-info/products/books>.

Open Institutional Publishing Association

A new association, [Open Institutional Publishing Association](#) (OIPA), that will support open access publishing activities at UK universities will launch over the summer in 2023. This will bring together colleagues already supporting OA publishing (and those at institutions who would like to) that share similar beliefs and motivations. An initial group of presses and institutional publishers, supported by Jisc, has been working together on the initial setup phase of the association. They would like the association to act as a central hub for exchanging knowledge and training. The group would like to encourage any

open access publishing operations at UK institutions, or those interested in moving into this area, to consider joining the association. Expressions of interest can be made using this short form: <https://jisc.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/oipa-expressions-of-interest>. For more information please contact oipa.contact@gmail.com. [Read more](#)

Podcasts on Artificial Intelligence and the humanities

Jisc have launched a podcast mini-series, *Is AI for me? Perspectives from the humanities*. The first podcast episode, [The highs and lows of artificial intelligence](#), is from [Melissa Terras](#), Professor of Digital Cultural Heritage at the University of Edinburgh who talks about the critical issues around the use of AI in humanities scholarship. [Read more](#)

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. WHELP <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: Director of Library and Information Services, Robert Gordon University

RGU's library is central to the University. The new Director will be part of the University Management group and will play a key role in enabling the University achieve its strategic ambition by; advancing the teaching and research provision, creating meaningful and creative learning experiences, forging effective and productive relationships with stakeholders and ensuring students (and staff) achieve the highest standard of information literacy. The post holder will deliver a compelling strategic vision for the library, implement robust financial planning and facilitate and ensure the highest standards of collections stewardship (including the arts and heritage collection), among a range of other responsibilities. **Closing date 13 June** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Subject Librarian, Cardiff University

A vacancy has arisen for the post of Subject Librarian supporting the Welsh School of Architecture at Cardiff University. This open-ended post is for 21 hours a week. The post holder will have specific responsibility for developing and delivering services to the Welsh School of Architecture, working closely with academic and professional services staff and students in the School, taking responsibility for managing the Architecture print collection including rare and special items, managing relevant electronic resources and liaising with database suppliers. The post holder will develop and deliver information literacy training sessions to support the curriculum and will also support research and OA initiatives. **Closing date 14 June** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Library and Academic Advisor, University of Cumbria

University of Cumbria are seeking a Library and Academic Advisor to join the skills@cumbria team within the Library Services area of the Student Services directorate. The post holder will be based at University of Cumbria's London campus and act as the primary point of contact in this area of work at the campus. The role supports the development of learning, teaching and research through: the development of students' research and academic and information literacies; close liaison with linked academic teams; the provision of subject library resource services to academic staff including library collection development and electronic reading list creation. Academic literacies development includes designing and delivering synchronous and asynchronous learning materials and sessions (online, individual

support and group sessions) across a number of topics: information skills, academic writing practices, referencing and avoiding plagiarism, study skills and digital literacies. **Closing date 14 June** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: NHS Liaison and Evidence Services Manager, Imperial College London

The NHS Library Liaison and Evidence Services Manager will be a key point of contact for senior level liaison with stakeholders in partner trusts and will use those relationships and the networks that they develop to understand the knowledge and evidence needs of partner organisations. The postholder will oversee the delivery of the full range of NHS library and evidence services including the development of a programme of health and information literacy training; evidence search services, current awareness and knowledge mobilisation services. They will use user feedback and a diverse range of evidence gathering techniques to understand our userbase and actively develop and continuously improve services to support them. **Closing date 15 June** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Research Data Manager, Edge Hill University

Edge Hill University are looking to appoint a Research Data Manager to join the Library and Learning Services team. The postholder will lead on advising researchers on the most appropriate ways to manage and disseminate their datasets. This will ensure good practice is followed, and compliance with funder or partner requirements is met. They will also establish, develop, and maintain a research data service, providing leadership which will inform university policies and determine internal workflows. **Closing date 18 June** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Head of Open Research Services, Edge Hill University

The Head of Open Research Services provides leadership and management of Library and Learning Services contribution to academic research. This is a strategically important role to enhance the University's research environment, developing and managing relationships, managing the University's publication and research data repositories, provide expert advice and guidance on scholarly communications, the curation and visibility of research outputs and Research Data Management (RDM). The role provides specialist knowledge to influence decisions and develop and design research support services. **Closing date 18 June** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Head of Academic Engagement, University of Brighton

University of Brighton are seeking a Head of Academic Engagement to join their senior management team to help shape the future direction of their library services. In this newly created role the postholder will work closely with the cross-site team of four Information Advisers and provide motivation, inspiration and direction to them and the Assistant Information Adviser team in the development and delivery of innovative digital and academic skills to support learning, teaching, and research. They will work closely with the Library Technical Services team and Information Advisers to oversee discovery services and the centralised library resources to ensure resources meet the academic needs of the community. **Closing date 25 June** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Associate Director: Space, Experience & Innovation, Lancaster University

Lancaster University are seeking a Associate Director: Space, Experience & Innovation. Reporting to the Library Director, this is a senior role taking the strategic lead for user experience of the physical and digital spaces as well as the ongoing digital transformation. The role-holder will be a member of the Library Leadership Team and will be focused on bringing our library vision to life and ensuring that Lancaster is a progressive and innovative library working in partnership with all its communities. **Closing date 30 June** [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 Annual Conference 2023, 14 June

Westminster HE Forum: Next steps for the Research Excellence Framework, 16 June

SCURL Annual Conference 2023, St Andrews, 16 June

JISC/OABN: Collective funding models for Open Access books, 21 June

Academic Libraries North Conference 2023, 21 June (via Teams) and 22 June (Leeds)

SCONUL AGM and members meeting, 26 June

Call for speakers: Customer Services Group UK - Inspired Ideas from the Sharp End, Salford, 30 June

ARLIS UK & Ireland Annual Conference, Norwich, 3-5 July

15th International Conference on Performance Measurement in Libraries (LibPMC), 11-13 July

CILIP conference, Birmingham, 12-13 July

ISKO UK 2023 Conference, Glasgow, 24-25 July

Open Science (OAI13) Conference, 4-8 September

4th Fantastic Futures Conference, 15-17 November