

News

Call for consultant to design technology survey for SCONUL members

SCONUL is planning to develop a regular survey for members on library technology and markets, and we are seeking a consultant to support us in developing this. The survey will help SCONUL and its members identify areas of library activity in which there is a lack of competition or poor performance; to evaluate potential suppliers; and to identify emerging areas of library activity and the existing or emerging technologies are being employed to meet these. We have published the brief for this work [here](#) and the deadline for responses is 10 January 2022. [Read more](#)

Joining a SCONUL strategy group

SCONUL are seeking representatives interested in helping shape the future of our sector through joining one of our working groups. SCONUL are recruiting for one member of the Trends and Futures Strategy Groups, as well as for two members of the Services Steering Group. The Trends and Futures Strategy Group is looking at long-term trends for teaching, learning and research, and their implications for libraries, particularly in light of the major developments over the last year. The Services Steering Group has oversight of SCONUL services and regularly reviews these to ensure their effectiveness, value for money and relevance. It also considers the scope for new services. These roles are suitable for those in senior leadership teams or acting as a head of service. You will need to be comfortable acting on behalf of the community as a whole but do not need any specific skills. SCONUL would particularly welcome applicants from communities and institutions under-represented across our groups including those with a BAME background; small and / or specialist institutions and institutions from Scotland, Wales, The Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. To apply, please e-mail ann.rossiter@sconul.ac.uk, saying which group you would like to be involved with and why, including a short biography (your nomination should be no more than 500 words).

New members of the SCONUL Board

SCONUL is delighted to announce that Andrew Barker, Director of Library Services & Learning Development, Lancaster University, has been elected Vice-Chair of SCONUL. This follows the election, at the AGM on 15 September, of Marilyn Clarke, Director of Library Services at Goldsmiths, University of London and Gary Elliott-Cirigottis, Director of Library Services at the Open University and Andrew Preater, Director of Library Services, University of West London. In addition to its elected members, SCONUL has scope to co-opt up to four people to the Board to ensure that it reflects the full diversity of the SCONUL community. SCONUL is grateful to Liz Jolly, Chief Librarian at the British Library who is co-opted representing national libraries and Kate Kelly, Director Library Services at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland who is co-opted representing libraries in Ireland.

SCONUL Access Scheme

SCONUL is delighted to announce that the Access scheme reopened on 15 November with over 80% of institutions participating. Those not participating at this juncture will have the opportunity to do so in early 2022. For further information please e-mail Liyana Pama, Member Engagement Manager, liyana.pama@sconul.ac.uk.

SCONUL Small and Specialist Institutions' Forum 2022

SCONUL is pleased to announce dates for the Small and Specialist Institutions' Forum in 2022. It has been established for small and specialist institutions to come together to share experiences, information and best practice. The forum is open to all those leading SCONUL member institutions who define themselves as specialist or small and their senior teams plus invited guests. The meetings will be held:

- February – date tbc
- Thursday 16 June, 10.30am - 12pm
- Thursday 13 October, 10.30am - 12pm

Further details will be circulated in due course. In the meantime, if you are interested in viewing the recording of the most recent webinar held on 14 October, please e-mail: sconul@sconul.ac.uk.

Libraries after Lockdown

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](#).

Mission groups comment on Elsevier negotiations

GuildHE Research, the Russell Group, University Alliance and Million Plus released a statement supporting the recommendation to reject the latest proposal from Elsevier and asking them to return to negotiations to seek an offer that meets the agreed negotiation objectives. Read the statement here: <https://www.millionplus.ac.uk/news/press-releases/joint-statement-on-negotiations-with-elsevier>

Jisc new product plans: monitoring and reporting on OA publications

Jisc announced that it will be developing a new workflow solution to support UK universities in monitoring and reporting on their open access publications, block grant expenditure, funder open access policy compliance, and Jisc-negotiated transitional agreements. Drawing on publication metadata from the [Open Access Switchboard](#) and other sources, the product will provide institutions with a database of publication metadata. Click [here](#) for more information and details about how you could get involved or contact Dr Jennifer Sanchez-Davies, Product manager (Open research services) Jennifer.sanchez-davies@jisc.ac.uk.

Carnegie UK Trust Engaging Libraries Toolkit

[Carnegie UK](#) has been working with the Wellcome Trust and Wolfson Foundation on the [Engaging Libraries Programme](#) since 2016. As the programme of funded activity draws to a close Carnegie UK is working with [Libraries Connected](#) to develop a practical toolkit for public libraries to develop public engagement activities with Higher Education Institutions. As part of this toolkit, they are creating an online directory of organisations who are actively interested in partnering with libraries on PE. Academic libraries are a key potential partner and 'wayfinder' for public libraries looking to work more closely with higher education partners. Any academic library that is interested in being listed, should contact Katie Pekacar at katie.pekacar@independentmind.co.uk with the organisation name/department, key contact name (optional), e-mail address, phone number and postcode of your organisation's main offices.

Open Access Agreements

Smaller independent publishers face challenges in providing the data to inform the negotiations with libraries and library consortia for Read and Publish, Subscribe to Open, Pure Publish, Publish and Read agreements, etc. Information Power have produced a survey to inform the development of a minimum data template to facilitate these types of Open Access agreements. It is part of a project sponsored jointly by cOAlition S funders and the Association of Learned & Professional Society Publishers (ALPSP). The survey will be open until 10 December: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/92VLLMD>

Updates from our peer organisations:

1. Academic Libraries North <https://www.academiclibrariesnorth.ac.uk/newsletters>
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/>
8. ucisa <https://www.ucisa.ac.uk/News-and-Views>
9. WHELFL <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 and Academic Advisor (0.5 FTE), University of Cumbria

University of Cumbria are recruiting for a Library and Academic Advisor, based at the Ambleside Campus. This is a key role supporting the development of learning, teaching and research through: 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. **Closing date 7 December** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Head of Customer Services, University of Leeds

University of Leeds Library are seeking a Head of Customer Services. The Customer Services team has responsibility for key frontline services, including managing the Library's enquiry and reception services, supervising the day-to-day operation of library buildings and study spaces, managing print circulation processes, and maintaining our interlibrary document supply service. **Closing date 9 December** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Faculty Librarian, University of Surrey

University of Surrey are currently recruiting for two Faculty Librarians to join their team in Library and Learning Services. Covering the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences the successful candidates will join the team working with the relevant Faculty to create strong partnerships and relationships between the Faculty and Library and Learning Services. The post holder will be the key point of contact for Library resources and collections supporting academics with teaching and research activities, as well as providing support and training for research staff and PGRs. Working closely with colleagues in our Content Team and Open Research they will play a key role in the Library's offering at the University working with departments around the institution. **Closing date 13 December** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Director of Library Services, University College Cork

University College Cork wishes to appoint an experienced Librarian to the role of Director of Library Services. The Director of Library Services holds responsibility for leadership and management of UCC's extensive library services provided to a community of approximately 30,000 users across a highly developed library infrastructure. Operating within the wider Information Services division, which includes as its partner service the IT Services Department, and reporting to the Director of Information Services, the Director of Library Services is part of a senior leadership team that guides the plans, resource allocation, decisions, and direction of Information Services as a whole. As the functional Head of the Library, the Director will take responsibility for the department and will work closely with the Library senior management team on a range of strategic and developmental areas, and to ensure effective operations, good management, and excellent service to the community. The Director will also be responsible for ensuring that the strategic direction of the department supports the overall strategic direction of Information Services. **Closing date 14 December** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Librarian – Collection Management and Engagement Team, Birmingham City University

Birmingham City University are seeking a Collections Management and Engagement (CME) Librarian. Reporting to the Head of Collection Management and Engagement alongside five other CME librarians this role will be responsible for the development and management of the University's resource collections, supporting the Business, Law and Social Sciences faculty. The successful candidate will engage with academic staff to source, select and purchase books, journals, databases and other resources to align collections with reading lists to meet students' needs. The post holder will manage all aspects of Library and Learning Resources collections from acquisition to disposal. **Closing date 14 December** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Research Support Librarian, Birmingham City University

Birmingham City University are recruiting for a Research Support Librarian. They are looking for a professional Librarian with proven skills and experience in supporting postgraduate research students and academic research staff who will lead in initiatives to help drive forward new services and the implementation of a research support plan. The successful candidate will be working within a team of Learning Teaching & Research Services (LTRS) Librarians and also a Library Content Developer. In addition to working with LTRS librarians, the successful candidate will also work with other L&LR colleagues to ensure the services and collections remain relevant and visible to researchers. **Closing date 15 December** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Customer Services Coordinator, Coventry University

Coventry University Library is seeking to appoint a full-time customer services coordinator to join their customer services team. The post holder will contribute to the effective operation of the library by providing services to the library customers and supporting their study at the university. They will line manage front facing library staff and provide administrative and organisational support to customer service activities within the library. **Closing date 19 December** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Systems Librarian, York St John University

York St John University Library and Learning Services is recruiting for a Systems Librarian to manage and enhance the range of systems which support library services. The role will involve the day-to-day maintenance, integration, and management of a range of library systems across multiple platforms. The successful candidate will have technical expertise to support and develop library systems as well as an understanding of the impact these systems have on the end user experience. **Closing date 5 January** [Read more](#)

Deputy University Librarian & Director of Academic Services, Cambridge University

Cambridge University is recruiting for a new Deputy University Librarian and Director of Academic Services to support the University Librarian in the development and leadership of Cambridge University Libraries. The role-holder will join the University at a time of renewal of the vision for libraries with the goal of improving diversity and inclusion and developing services and strategies in response to changes in user needs and the accelerated digital shift during the pandemic. The role-holder is responsible for direction and management of large-scale service functions across the University Libraries, including academic services, liaison and collection development, all supporting education and research for the University's staff and students. The role-holder will have the skill and diplomacy to influence and navigate successful outcomes in a complex and highly devolved collegiate university environment. **Closing date 9 January 2022** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Information Specialist, Aston University

Aston University Library Services is seeking to appoint an Information Specialist This role will develop and maintain positive relationships with academic and professional departments to enable the library to deliver high quality, responsive and effective services and resources to support learning, teaching and research. As part of the Information Services Team the post holder will lead engagement within a portfolio of College and departments, design and deliver learning and skills development, and support a range of service development projects. **Closing date 9 January** [Read more](#)

SCONUL services

SCONUL Access

Well used across the UK this scheme which allows many university library users to access study spaces, books and journals at other libraries within the scheme. SCONUL Access has proved an invaluable offering for institutions as well as library users, of whom you may be(come) one!

SCONUL Deputies and New Directors Groups

Knowledge and experience sharing is invaluable in such changing times 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 and these partnerships, intended to support emerging or newly-appointed leaders (experienced leaders may also apply), are an opportunity for guidance, professional and personal growth to help develop your leadership capacity. 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 is published in July 2022

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-Covid). [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.

UKeiG: The Tony Kent Strix Award - Annual Memorial Lecture 2021, 9 December

Westminster HE Forum: Next steps for UK research and innovation - Policy, strategy and organisation, collaboration, investment, and the workforce, 25 January

SCURL Copyright & Legal Group Winter Conference, 27 January

SCONUL Small and Specialist Institutions' Forum, February

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

SCONUL Small and Specialist Institutions' Forum, 16 June

SCONUL Small and Specialist Institutions' Forum, 13 October