

News

Driving change in the e-books market

SCONUL has launched a position paper calling for immediate action by publishers and aggregators to introduce more sustainable and affordable pricing models for e-books and e-textbooks. The paper is endorsed by CILIP, Jisc, RLUK, the #ebooksSOS campaign, the National Acquisitions Group (NAG) and the purchasing consortia APUC and SUPC. SCONUL has also issued a joint statement with the same organisations serving notice that we are working together to drive for change. [Read more](#)

SCONUL Small and Specialist Institutions' Forum

SCONUL has held its first meeting of the Forum we have established for small and specialist institutions to come together to share experiences, information and best practice. The forum open to all those leading SCONUL member institutions who define themselves as specialist or small and their senior teams plus invited guests. We will be announcing dates of further meetings of the Forum shortly. In the meantime, if you are interested in viewing the recording of the recent webinar, please e-mail: sconul@sconul.ac.uk

SCONUL members meeting 2021 keynote presentation recording

On 15 September SCONUL held its AGM and members meeting. The keynote presentation was delivered by Josh Fleming, Head of Strategy at OfS and Lara Bird, then Strategic Policy Adviser at OfS. Both were among the architects of Sir Michael Barber's 2020 Digital Teaching and Learning Review and brought key end-user insight/perspective to their presentation on how the past 18 months' experiences will reshape UK higher education. Watch the presentation here: <https://www.sconul.ac.uk/page/sconul-agm-and-members-meeting-2021>

Libraries after Lockdown event recordings

Recordings of all previous Libraries after Lockdown events are available to view on the event 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

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](#).

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](#)

Applications open: Professional Practice Fellowships for academic and research libraries

The Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and Research Libraries UK (RLUK) have announced that applications are now open for the Professional Practice Fellowship Scheme for academic and research libraries. The scheme will provide five fellowships of up to £20,000 (80% FEC) and is open to colleagues working across the academic and research library community. Several application surgeries will take place throughout October and November to support applicants and additional support is also on offer to members of under-represented groups and for colleagues who feel themselves disadvantaged in making an application. Please visit the [scheme webpages](#) for further details of these opportunities. Applications can be made at: <https://www.rluk.ac.uk/prof-practice-fellowships/> and will remain open until midday on Friday 3 December.

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. 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: Head of Academic Library Support, University of Edinburgh

University of Edinburgh is seeking a Head of Academic Library Support. The post holder will lead and shape the academic support services provided by the Academic Support Librarian Team. They are looking for an experience information professional, skilled in academic library support with experience of leading, developing and motivating professional staff. **Closing date 18 October** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Head of Digital Library, University of Edinburgh

University of Edinburgh is seeking a Head of Digital Library. The post holder will lead and shape the digital services and projects delivered by the Digital Library Team. They will be the technical lead for Library & University Collections when planning and delivering future digital strategy and developing joint projects with other areas of Information Services Group, the University and partners outside the University. **Closing date 18 October** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Head of Academic Services, Liverpool John Moores University

Liverpool John Moores University are seeking a new Head of Academic Services to join the library leadership team and take responsibility for the strategic oversight of academic engagement, academic achievement and special collections and archives. The successful candidate will have a highly customer-oriented approach to service development and improvement with a focus on innovation and an emphasis on promoting digital services. The ability to foster excellent working relationships with University colleagues, manage complex partner relationships and lead innovation and change are essential requirements of the post. Closing date 18 October [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Collection Management and Engagement Librarian, Birmingham City University

Birmingham City University are looking for a user-focused, and innovative individual to serve as a Collections Management and Engagement (CME) Librarian within Library and Learning Resources (L&LR). 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 (BLSS) faculty. **Closing date 24 October** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Study Adviser, University of Reading

University of Reading Library are seeking a Study Adviser to provide academic advice and support to their students. The post holder will deliver workshops on study skills including academic writing, time management etc. to both mixed and specific subject groups of students; provide one-to-one study advice to undergraduate and taught postgraduate students on an appointment basis; and develop learning and teaching resources, including video tutorials and online guides. **Closing date 29 October** [Read more](#)

Vacancy: Senior Manager: Archives and Special Collections, Durham University

Durham University are recruiting for a Senior Manager: Archives and Special Collections. The role provides strategic and operational leadership for all aspects of the management of these collections and access to them, and for a team of archivists, rare books librarians and para-professional staff. It also leads and supports initiatives to promote, foster and enable the use of collections for research, education and engagement; and in response to new opportunities and requirements of digital preservation and digital scholarship. The role involves maintaining relationships with a wide range of stakeholders, partners (including Durham University and Ushaw College), researchers and research projects within Durham University and externally, and with regional and national networks, professional bodies and funders. **Closing date 7 November** [Read more](#)

Resources

Below is a list of [resources for SCONUL members dealing with Covid-19](#). If you would like SCONUL to include any resources that may be of interest to members, please email sitmui.ng@sconul.ac.uk

Current COVID resources

- Government guidance for English universities on Covid-19 (updated 27 September): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/higher-education-reopening-buildings-and-campuses/higher-education-reopening-buildings-and-campuses>
- The Welsh government guidance and services for higher education: <https://gov.wales/higher-education-coronavirus>
- The Scottish government's guidance for universities, colleges and community learning and development providers to help reduce the spread of Covid-19 (updated 24 September): <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-universities-colleges-and-community-learning-and-development-providers/>
- SAGE Advice, Mitigations to Reduce Transmission of the new variant SARS-CoV-2 virus SAGE-EMG, SPI-B, Transmission Group, 23 December 2020: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/948607/s0995-mitigations-to-reduce-transmission-of-the-new-variant.pdf
- Jisc's report on the response to COVID-19 and the future of digital learning and teaching: <https://www.jisc.ac.uk/reports/learning-and-teaching-reimagined-a-new-dawn-for-higher-education>
- Libraries Connected have incorporated updated advice from PHE on quarantine of returned library books and resources into their revised Library Service Recovery Toolkit. <https://www.librariesconnected.org.uk/resource/service-recovery-toolkit-word>

SCONUL services during the pandemic

- All events this academic year (2021-22) will held virtually and we will be bringing members together to discuss their response to the immediate crisis and to look at the longer-term impacts and the community's response
- We continue to provide our support for our deputies and directors' groups, SCONUL Mentoring and other services. Please feel free to contact us as usual.

Archive: Covid-19 documentation

Resources which are no longer current but have been retained for reference purposes can be found here: <https://www.sconul.ac.uk/page/archive-covid-19-documentation>

Events

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

New Librarianship Symposia Series, Autumn 2021

14th International Conference on Performance Measurement in Libraries, 2-4 November

CILIP Employers Forum 18 November, Oxford

CSGUK Annual Conference, 26 November