

NoWAL Newsletter

Winter 2016

NoWAL

North West Academic Libraries

Manchester Met Librarian goes 'Back to the Floor'

Directors of Services and all Services Group Directors at Manchester Metropolitan are going 'Back to the Floor' this term. As part of the initiative, University Librarian, Ruth Jenkins, spent a morning with colleagues in the Crewe Library in Cheshire. It was a great opportunity for Ruth to see how the Library works and meet colleagues based in Cheshire.



Ruth attended a Library InfoSkills workshop in the morning and spent some time on the help desk with staff while they carried out their tasks. She also popped into the virtual help desk office and was surprised how busy it was. Ruth also had the chance to admire the display Library staff had put together for Black History Month and see the wide range of resources available to staff and students in the Library.

Ruth praised the fantastic team in the Crewe Library – she was particularly impressed with the focus on student experience and support for researchers.

Cumbria refurbishments completed

The Library space at the Lancaster campus of the University of Cumbria was refurbished over the summer and opened at the start of semester one.

The ground floor now includes social learning spaces and group learning pods. The vintage, 1960s building looks refreshed and vibrant, and students are enjoying the improvements.

New halls of residence have also been completed at the Ambleside campus.



Any news to share?

Please contact Nicky Freeman – n.freeman100@salford.ac.uk / 0161 295 6768 if you have anything you'd like to include in a future newsletter or have any ideas for future NoWAL events.

NoWAL Conference 2017

Library Evolution: what's the future for academic libraries

The NoWAL Conference will take place on **20th July 2017** at the George Fox building at the **University of Lancaster**.



The theme of the conference is around the future of the academic library. There will be keynotes, workshops, posters, and presentations around this overarching theme, integrating the themes of the NoWAL Plan: Knowledge Exchange & Sharing; Training & Development; and Service & Workforce Development & Planning.

Want to present? Call for papers

Are you interested in presenting at the conference? We'll be putting out a call for papers in December, with a deadline for returns by the end of February. If you're a first time presenter, please do get in touch – all NoWAL events are designed to be safe environments which allow staff to 'have a go' amongst friends! We are planning to offer some help along the way too – an online session on putting together a great abstract and conference paper, as well as an opportunity near to the conference date to do a dry run through your paper with other presenters.

Look out for further emails and newsletter articles detailing how to register and bag yourself a place on what we are sure will be an interesting and thought-provoking conference! If you have any queries in the meantime, contact Nicky: n.freeman100@salford.ac.uk

T&D Events Nov 2016 – Feb 2017

We hope that you have found many things of interest in the new programme, which kicked off in September 2016.

Here's a taster of what you can book onto from over the next few months - click on each of the links for more information:

Student Induction (including gamification / BYOD / mobile technologies)

7 Dec 2016 10.00 – 1.00

Manchester Metropolitan University

<http://bit.ly/zedCJFM>

Visit to the Portico Library (Manchester)

7 Dec 2016 2.00 – 3.30 ***Fully Booked***

<http://bit.ly/2feoiAY> - contact Nicky about additional places – n.freeman100@salford.ac.uk

Digital Scholarship: developing practices in academic libraries

19th Jan 2017, 11.00 – 3.00

University of Salford, MediaCityUK

<http://bit.ly/2fhBIDo>

TeachMeet - Exploring Online Learning in Information Literacy

24th March 2017 10.00 – 1.00

UCLan

<http://bit.ly/2e26v5c>



Look out for further information on forthcoming events which are still in the planning stages – dates and venues to be confirmed asap: acquisitions training for library/information assistants; special collections and impact at LJMU; DSA changes and their implications for libraries – and much more as the year goes on.

If you have ideas for events, please contact Nicky to see if we can get it organised: n.freeman100@salford.ac.uk.

Celebrating NoWAL Successes

University of Cumbria The CN Group Education and Learning Awards, known as the Golden Apples, took place on Friday 7 October 2016. The University of Cumbria won the 'Technology in Learning Award' in recognition of its STEM investment and developments. The University was also shortlisted in the 'Employability' category, and former Vice Chancellor Professor Peter Strike was presented with this year's Lifetime Achievement Award.

UCLan was shortlisted for the CILIP Diversity Award based on its new scanning service. It is the first HE site in the UK to have purchased a Treventus ScanRobot, initially used to support its Resource Accessibility project which will provide reading list materials for blind and visually impaired students in OCR screen-readable format. All the scanned content will be uploaded to the RNIB Bookshare service to be used by other education providers. Although the university didn't win, it received a 'Highly Commended'.

Edge Hill University has been 'highly commended' for the Learning at Work week (Impact) award 2016. The judges stated that commendation "reflects the strength and quality of your entry which put you in very close contention for winning the overall award." The entry was based on a week-long sharing of a mix of work and non-work related activities which ranged from getting the best deals online, to make up sessions, alongside insights into lecture capture and using apps.

Liverpool John Moores University achieved Customer Service Excellence re-accreditation, with a further 6 Compliance Plus awarded in addition to retaining the 9 awarded last year; a total of 15 Compliance Plus awards.

Manchester Metropolitan University's Library has also gained re-accreditation for CSE, including a Compliance+ award. The award is credit to the customer-focused service the Library offers to its staff and students. Library Services were awarded Compliance+ in 5 different areas for their work on: reading list engagement, referencing support through InfoSkills, the Library Welcome campaign, techniques for gaining insight into user experience, and a new demand-driven acquisition model. The assessor acknowledged the passion and commitment of staff in delivering a customer focused service, and was impressed with the desk staff's engagement with new students, commenting "staff were proactive in spotting people who looked a little lost and in need of support. You could see their worries melting away."

New and Improved Seaborne Library, Chester

The University of Chester has completed Phase 2 of the extension of the Seaborne Library. Users have benefitted from many new improvements to the Library, including an increase in bookable spaces, additional PCs, more group study areas and individual study spaces.

NoWAL Plan 2016-2019

We are very pleased to launch our new strategic plan which sets out the direction of travel for the consortium for the next three years.

The NoWAL Operations Group, Board and Senior Staff Group have been working on the NoWAL Plan for 2016-19.

There are 3 themes to the Plan:

- Knowledge Exchange & Sharing;
- Training & Development;
- Service & Workforce Development & Planning

Within each of the themes, we have created a set of objectives and we hope to get as many staff as possible involved in working towards the shared goals and aspirations of the Plan.

If you would like to know more about the Plan and how you can get involved, please visit the NoWAL website:

www.nowal.ac.uk/news

NoWAL 
North West Academic Libraries



The Library team at Manchester Metropolitan
University

NoWAL Groups – Get Involved

In the last newsletter we updated you on all the NoWAL Groups. We've been doing some additional work on them and have split them into Functional Groups, representing NoWAL's core functions, and Special Interest Groups. Here's a reminder of all the groups:

Functional Groups

Procurement
Senior Staff
Training & Development

Special Interest Groups

Academic Librarians
Copyright
Project Management
Research
Special Collections
User Experience

Non-NoWAL Groups (but administered by NoWAL)

Figshare User Group
NW-RDM

Get Involved!

Some of the groups are more active than others. And for some we are looking at whether they have a remit & purpose.

If you have an interest in any of the groups, why not contact Nicky, join today and see what everyone else is up to in your area of interest? n.freeman100@salford.ac.uk



University of Salford's 'Library of Ideas'

The University of Salford Library hosted a pop-up library at Manchester Victoria Station over half term as part of the Manchester Science Festival.



The 'Library of Ideas' offered an opportunity for visitors to read about scientific discoveries and to listen to pop-up talks on subjects as diverse as the decline of the honey-bee and the lived experience of prospective adoptive parents.

It was a great way to demonstrate how science thrives when knowledge is shared and for the Salford university library to share this knowledge with the community and help them to discover new ideas about science through books.



Feedback from visitors was really positive and it is hoped it can be repeated next year:

"This pop-up Library has been a revelation for me."
"The idea of this library is creative and a good one. I love it!"

"A fabulous idea...our libraries should be more appreciated and science should be celebrated more"

NoWAL Operations Group

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