

# NoWAL



*North West Academic Libraries*

## NOWAL Newsletter

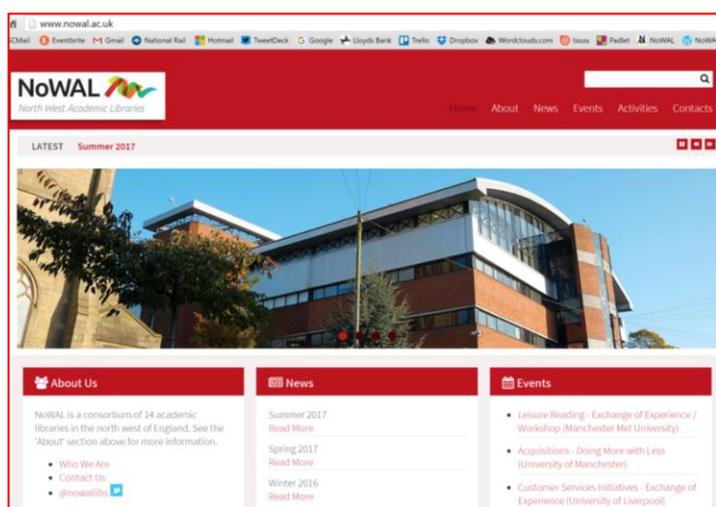
Winter 2017

### New look NoWAL website launches

As you will be aware, the old NoWAL website was hacked at the end of 2016, and we have since been managing with a temporary WordPress site. Work has been ongoing over the past few weeks on a new website, finalising content and style, and we are pleased to announce that it is now ready to launch! Happily we have retained the old URL so you can view it at: [www.nowal.ac.uk](http://www.nowal.ac.uk).

As with the old site, it is hoped that the new NoWAL Website will shine a light on our activities and celebrate the successes both of our member libraries and our collaborative groups and events. We are also hoping to use the website as a means of showcasing the benefits of NoWAL, as well as a way of demonstrating where expertise lies in NoWAL libraries.

We would be delighted to highlight activities at your institution, so please share your successes, innovations and ideas with us at any time. News items can be sent to Nicky Freeman at [n.freeman100@salford.ac.uk](mailto:n.freeman100@salford.ac.uk).



### UCLan hosts AUC students

UCLan is currently hosting more than 600 students and academic staff from the American University of the Caribbean (AUC) medical school after their campus on the island of Sint Maarten was almost completely destroyed by Hurricane Irma. AUC is using UCLan's teaching and specialist clinical spaces during evenings and weekends when they are not timetabled for UCLan's own students.



The students will remain AUC students and will follow AUC's curriculum, but have access to a range of facilities including the Library, the Students' Union and Student Services. Accommodation has been arranged in numerous University-owned and private halls of residence within Preston City Centre. <http://www.uclan.ac.uk/news/university-supports-american-university.php>

## Training & Development Programme

Here's what's coming up over the next few months - click on each of the links for more information:

### Customer Services Initiatives

7 Dec 2017 10:00 – 1:00

University of Liverpool

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

### Visit to Liverpool Central Library

7 Dec 2017 2:00 – 3:30

Liverpool

<http://bit.ly/2AjeQw7>

### Research Support: Navigating the Metric Maze

18 Jan 2018 10:00 – 4:00

Liverpool John Moores University

<http://bit.ly/2m1MkJe>

### DocDel / ILLs / Digitisation

31 Jan 2018 10:00 – 4:00

University of Salford

<http://bit.ly/2y2l6gn>

### Virtual & Online Learning to Support Students

7 Feb 2018 13:00 – 4:00

Edge Hill University

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

### Managing Spaces / Environments

22 Feb 2018 10:00 – 1:00

Royal Northern College of Music

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

### University of Manchester's Off-site Storage Facility

22 Feb 2018 2:30 – 4:30

Salford

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

### An Introduction to Copyright and Copyright Education - Jane Secker & Chris Morrison

6 Mar 2018 09:30 – 4:45

University of Salford

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

There are more sessions available too – check them out at [www.nowal.ac.uk/events](http://www.nowal.ac.uk/events)

## Celebrating NoWAL Successes

**Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine** were pleased with the PTES results as satisfaction with library resources and services rose to 80% from 50% the previous year, with lots of positive comments from students.

At the **University of Liverpool**, answers to the library questions in satisfaction surveys have ranked them as top quartile for the PRES; top half for PTES; and above average in the NSS (within the Russell Group).

The **University of Manchester** Library's contribution to Widening Participation through My Learning Essentials resources has been recognised with a Blackboard Catalyst Award for Community Engagement.

**RNCM**'s special collections team has been successful in obtaining HLF funding for the project *Making Music in Manchester during WW1*.

**Manchester Metropolitan University**'s CSE 3 year re-accreditation went well & all areas were successfully reaccredited, achieving Compliance Plus in 'customer feedback & the customer journey', 'working with partners and the community', 'achieved service delivery & outcomes'.

The **University of Manchester**'s Learning Commons played host to Dr Carla Hayden, the American 14th Librarian of Congress, in July. Dr Hayden was given a tour of the building before discussing strategic issues with members of the Leadership Team.

**LJMU**'s recent CSE 3 year re-accreditation was very successful and all areas were reaccredited, maintaining 15 Compliance Plus.

### Interested in sharing & celebrating your personal or institutional successes?

Send your stories to **Nicky Freeman** for inclusion in the next newsletter or to feature on the NoWAL website.

## Further improvements to Lancaster's outstanding library

Since opening in January 2016, Lancaster University's refurbished Library has proved to be exceptionally popular with students. Its success has been reflected in excellent survey results, including 92% satisfaction in the NSS in both 2016 and 2017.

Earlier this year, the Library also achieved joint first place in the UK for good library and library opening hours (THES Student Experience Survey 2017).

Since the refurbishment, numbers attending the building have regularly exceeded 50% more than pre-refurbishment levels, leading to pressure on study space, especially during the exam period.

Phase 2 of the project commenced over the Summer Vacation, ensuring continuous improvement to an outstanding facility. An additional 80 workspaces were installed in the Reading Room, Postgraduate Study Area and on A Floor. Informal sofa seating in the Silent Area on C Floor was replaced with formal desking, in line with the study preferences of library users.

On 30 October, further work began to transform the area around Special Collections into a welcoming and accessible study area. Not included within the scope of the original refurbishment project, the area around the collections will now have 44 power- and WiFi-enabled workspaces installed. The collections themselves will be streamlined within two stores, allowing for the creation of a Reading Room/flexible teaching space. The new space will be ready by mid-January 2018.



## Adventures of a School Librarian in Bangkok

For those who worked with Lisa Toner at the University of Cumbria and via project groups, you might be interested in keeping up to date with her adventures in Asia. She is currently School Librarian at an international school in Bangkok, and from looking at her blog posts, she really has grasped with both hands the opportunities being in that part of the world have afforded her. She's included some amazing photographs of her work and travels – it's worth checking out her blog just for them: <https://turninglifespagesblog.wordpress.com/>



## Bolton LEAPs online with new resource

LEAP Online, the University of Bolton's Learning Excellence Achievement Pathway, launched in September 2017. It is designed to support students during their academic journey and personal development while they are at University.

The content was developed by a Library team, with collaboration and contributions from academics and other support services such as Careers. Each section contains information about topics, videos and activities.

There are four domains:



Students can earn digital badges by completing the assessments. The assessment is a Moodle quiz; when a student passes an assessment, a digital badge is awarded that is saved in their Moodle profile.

The badges can be used to build up a portfolio of evidence of skills development. The badges have proved extremely popular, with over 942 awarded to over 290 students in the first month of being live.

Some students are so keen, they have suggested that physical badges are supplied as well as digital ones!

Some academics have used the badge data to try and promote some friendly competition within their classes to motivate students to complete more sections. New content is still being developed and will be added regularly and advertised via social media.

## Salford Library's Instagram takeover for study spaces promotion



As the Library at Salford is in the final stage of a £6.2 million redevelopment, it was decided to run a campaign to promote study spaces outside the main library – there are five main study spaces outside of Clifford Whitworth that could give students a place to study and help make up for the reduction in space during the refurbishments.

As well as tweets, an intranet article and a poster campaign, the Library took over the university's main Instagram account to give their followers a tour of what lies beyond Clifford Whitworth.

Followers were also invited to send pictures of themselves studying outside Clifford Whitworth in exchange for £5 worth of printer credits.

The Instagram story was viewed over 1,200 times and 14 students sent in pictures of themselves studying outside Clifford Whitworth. The cross-promotion of the Salford Instagram account @salfordunilibrary through the story also gained more than 20 new followers.

The user-generated content also allowed the Library to build a Twitter campaign displaying the images. This allowed students to hear from other students, instead of the Library, that these spaces were indeed nice places in which to study.

Following this success, the Library plans to make social media takeovers, whether it's someone taking over the Library's account or vice versa, a key part of its marketing campaigns.

## Leisure Reading Event Success

In October, NoWAL hosted a Leisure Reading event at Manchester Metropolitan University, attended by 48 members of staff from across NoWAL institutions and beyond. The popularity of the event underlined the importance libraries are placing on the pastoral care of students, and how supporting their mental health and wellbeing improves their university experience.



The event showcased activities at NoWAL member libraries, with presentations from the University of Salford and Manchester Metropolitan University. The facilitator for the event, Gopal Dutta also managed to attract speakers from outside of NoWAL, and attendees were treated to the experience of staff from Wakelet (who also kindly sponsored lunch), the University of Loughborough, Manchester Public Libraries and a bibliotherapist from the company, Words for Wellbeing. Feedback from the event was overwhelmingly positive:

- The speakers were wonderful
- Re-enthused & re-motivated my interest in this topic! Lots of fresh ideas
- Some interesting approaches and ideas for promoting reading amongst students

A Wakelet from the event, including presenter slides and a Storify are available here: <https://wakelet.com/wake/71cd20a6-5f3f-43a9-918e-80168b63f80e>. As a result of the event, NoWAL is now organising a bibliotherapy session with Julie Walker from Words for Wellbeing, looking at the benefits of bookchats and how to go about organising them. To get involved, please contact [Nicky Freeman](#).

## Salford's Library brings fake news to Manchester Science Festival

The University of Salford Library sorted fact from fiction at their Library of Fake News at the Manchester Science Festival on Saturday 21 October and Sunday 22 October.

In their MediaCityUK library, visitors learnt how and why fake news is created, picked up fact-checking tips and played games to test their ability to spot fake news.

In addition to this, they had a timeline of fake news throughout the ages proving that Donald Trump did not invent fake news, a tombola of truth, video interviews, a confessional box for people to deposit their personal fake news – lies they had told others about themselves – and students from their 'Comedy Performance' course playing the role of 'librarians'.

The Fake News Library proved to be a great success, receiving lots of positive feedback from visitors and colleagues across the university.

The University of Salford is the lead educational sponsor of the Manchester Science Festival and hosted 'Gamelab', a weekend of activities at MediaCityUK, of which the Library of Fake News was a part.



## News in Brief

### John Rylands exhibition opens

*The Reformation*, the new exhibition at John Rylands, is now open to the public. The Reformation focuses on the three key personalities, Martin Luther, William Tyndale and King Henry VIII, who changed the course of history. It invites visitors to discover the power of the printed word and how it shaped the world as we know it. The exhibition runs till 4 March 2018. Further information can be found here:

<http://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/rylands/whats-on/reformation/>

### Liverpool's galleries and museum numbers on the rise

Visitor numbers to Liverpool's galleries and museums have increased considerably over the last quarter. A loan of the Meroe Head of Augustus has been agreed with the British Museum (March to June 2018) which will coincide with the BBC Civilisations series. It will also coincide with elements of the Terracotta Army being displayed by National Museums Liverpool, and the British Museum's touring Vikings exhibition, to be displayed by the Atkinson Museum in Southport. Together these will be the subject of a number of academic activities on the theme of representations of imperial power.

### NoWAL Governance Guide Updated

The NoWAL Operations Group has been working over the summer to update the **NoWAL Governance Guide**. Since our partnership with SCONUL, the consortium is no longer a company limited by guarantee or a charity, and therefore does not need to follow the rigid reporting structure of Companies House and the Charity Commission. We now produce an Annual Review in February each year to showcase our achievements and demonstrate the benefits of consortial working.

### LSTM gets degree awarding powers

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine has been granted degree awarding powers, for both taught and research degrees, by the Privy Council following assessment over two years by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA). The process of being granted degree awarding powers involved the QAA scrutinising over 1,000 documents, observing meetings, and getting feedback from staff and students as well as external examiners. The Library team is now involved in looking at its programme of support in more depth, especially support for post-graduate research students. More information on what this means for LSTM can found here:

<http://www.lstmed.ac.uk/news-events/news/degree-awarding-powers-for-lstm>

### Any news to share?

Please contact Nicky Freeman if you have anything you'd like to include in the next newsletter or have any ideas for future NoWAL events: [n.freeman100@salford.ac.uk](mailto:n.freeman100@salford.ac.uk)

### Chester's LIS attend Fresher's Fair

For the fourth year running LIS were in attendance at the Fresher's Fair event held at both the Chester and Warrington campuses. The aim for participating each year is to give students a positive first experience with LIS; to introduce the friendly and fun LIS team; and to share all the services and facilities on offer to students during their studies.



LIS information bundles were handed out and students could participate in games to win a wide selection of prizes or enter into the prize draw - all of which drew crowds, creating a buzz around the stall. There was also a presentation advertising the Mobile App, which was very well received by its audience! The day proved to be a huge success with students asking more about LIS, its services, and staying to chat.