



Mercian Staff Development Group

Minutes of the meeting 13th June 2017, University of Birmingham

Present: Angela Brady, Ruth Chell, Matt Cunningham, Rob Davies, Heather Green, Kay Jeffries, Kirsty Kift (Chair), Heather McBride-Wilding, Jane Mortimer (Minutes), Christine Porter, Sarah Pittaway, Susan Rodda, Sue Storey, Janet Weaver

1. Apologies

Trish Fouracres, Kathryn Greaves, Gareth (Gaz) Johnson, Ruth Stubbings, Lesley Thompson

2. Minutes of meeting on 9th March 2017

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

3. Matters arising from 13 September

- Word Press site closure and handover administrative task to be completed. **Action: Ruth Stubbings**
- There will be a stand at the conference on 12th September to promote the buddying scheme

4. Update from the Chair

Updates are captured in the Mercian Officer report.

There is a lack of clarity around the special interest groups (Disability and RDM) in relation to training and development. **Action: Kirsty Kift to go back to the Directors**

5. Update from Mercian Officer

The update provided by Gaz in advance of the meeting was considered.

6. 2017- 2018 learning exchange programme

A draft programme for the year (below) was drawn up.

Topic	Description	Venue	Partner	Date
Libguides/web sites	Sharing best practice and student engagement	Coventry	Lincoln (lead), Worcester	Nov 2017
New approaches to circulation	To includes fines – what done differently and how has it worked	Staffordshire	Keele	Dec
Reading lists	Software, what is a list, why do we have lists, how can we better engage students with reading	Newman	Nottingham, Coventry, Warwick	Jan/Feb 2018
What do year 2 students need to know?	Follow up to session on year 1 students in 2016-17 programme	DMU	Aston	March 2018
Student wellbeing	Health and welfare programmes, particularly in a 24 hour environment. Include staff wellbeing	Warwick	Leicester, DMU	April



Negotiating/ influencing skills	External speaker	Lead/host required*	Leicester investigating speaker	tbc
Measuring impact	KPIs, learning gain. External speaker	Lead/host required*		tbc

*Group members not present at the meeting are invited to put themselves forward to host or partner events, particularly where gaps exist. **Action:**

We need to be mindful of the Mercian Conference programme and will review our draft in light of what is being proposed.

We consistently get feedback from participants that the events aren't long enough. Event organisers to give consideration to longer events (10-3), where content demands it.

7. All The Same But Different visits 2017-18

The following schedule of visits was agreed:

- Aston – November 2017
- Warwick – December 2017
- Derby – March 2018
- Loughborough – May 2018

A new learning hub is opening next to the Library at Nottingham and this may provide an opportunity for a visit in 2018-19

8. Conference

Matt provided an update on the conference planning. 20 submissions for session proposals have been received. Keynote speaker is Eric Stoller, who will also be running a workshop. 80-100 places will be on offer to the Mercian Collaboration libraries, which is likely to mean 3 places per institution. There will be no charge.

The meeting queried how the bookings will work – via EventBrite, which would be open to anyone booking on? **Action: Matt Cunningham to check**

The Staff Development Group will have a stand at the conference which will enable us to promote the buddy scheme and sign up interested parties (to buddy and be buddied). Those willing to help staff the stand, probably over lunchtime, let Kirsty know. **Action: All.** Kirsty will organise publicity for the buddy scheme. **Action: Kirsty Kift**

9. Admin issues

Event flyers and other event information to be submitted to Gaz Johnson in good time, ideally a month before the event. **Action: All event organisers.**

Ruth Chell advised that the majority of the event evaluations from last year and this year had been received. Exceptions were the Birmingham All the same but Different visit and the recent event at Northampton. **Action: Ruth Chell to chase Birmingham and Heather McBride-Wilding to supply Northampton event evaluations**

It was suggested we should undertake some longitudinal analysis of the impact of our events. Ruth agreed to draft a short survey for sending out to event participants at the end of June. **Action: Ruth Chell to draft survey and circulate.** *In an update post-meeting Ruth confirmed she had located and would use last year's survey.*



Action: hosts for events in 2016-17 that did not use the Mercian EventBrite account for booking to email participants using wording provided (after the meeting) by Ruth Chell.

10. Collaboration and sharing on ethnography

The request from participants at the ethnography event for continued collaboration was discussed. It was agreed a formal group was not the way forward, specifically because the Directors do not wish to see a proliferation of groups. Instead:

- It was suggested the event on measuring impact could pick up some of these themes. **Action: Kirsty to discuss with Ruth Stubbings**
- The meeting noted that the annual UX Library Conference works in this area

11. Dates of forthcoming MSDG meetings

Thursday 21st September 2017 – Nottingham Trent University

Tuesday 13th March 2018 – The Hive, Worcester

12. AOB

Heather McBride-Wilding is the HE rep on LIEM (Libraries and Information East Midlands). She highlighted the value of their training programme, which is open to those in the East Midlands region and beyond. (Motivate, Learn, Lead open to member libraries only). Heather invited ideas for inclusion in the training programme, suggestions to be sent to her **Action: All**

Updates from members

[Section redacted at request of SDG Chair]