

Today's session is
being recorded

CONFERENCE BRIEFING EVENT

Introducing the 2022 Call for
Conference Speakers

May 2022

[#mercian22](https://twitter.com/mercian22)



In Today's Session

Overview of the 2022 Conference theme

Advice on creating a session proposal

Understanding different session formats/options

Tips on delivering effective talks

Use chat to raise comments or pose questions

Discussions & comments time at end



Slides &
recordings will
be made
available

Conference 2022: Overview

6th annual Collaboration conference

Hosted online 6th & 7th September

Generalist academic event around broad theme

Attracts 100-150 library staff across region

Attended by all levels and sections

Especially welcomes less-experienced speakers

Thanks to
Cranfield for
hosting us!

Conference 2022: Theme

Redefining Engagement: Connections, Collections & Communities

Concerned with shifts in library service engagement

- How engaging and meeting user community needs?
- Exploring new/redefined approaches to engagement

What's changed, why it matters & how you adapted?

- Success or failure, evolution or revolution etc.,

Session Proposal: Outline of what you are going to say

- Good session proposal *must* relate to theme

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Conference 2022: Subthemes

Content &
Collections

Partnerships
& Liaison

People,
Customers &
Community

Services &
Workflows

merciancollaboration.org.uk/news-call-for-speakers-2022

**AND NOW OUR NEXT
SPEAKERS...**

Keeping Audience Attention

Aim to retain audience's attention throughout

Delivery & content both matter

Speak confidently, with poise & authority

Hook, rehook & recapture attention periodically

Moderate tone & pace to refocus attention

Deploy gesturing effectively if sparingly

Great improvisation
is powerful...but
can disrupt on
timing, coherence
& focus

Projecting Confidence

Self-confidence wins over audiences

Find space to destress ahead of speaking

Address physical needs to retain composure

Water for throat & nerves

Deal with the audience's gaze

Be authentic, be yourself, be excellent!

A glass looks more professional than swigging out of a bottle



...usually

Crisis Aversion

Session moderator there to support you

Use props, aids & pauses to assist

Avoid 'dead air' lengthy pauses

Participate in any 'speaker testing' events

Always be prepared to speak 'hands-free'

Passionate & polished, not perfection

Saying 'I don't know' to answer a question, is a legitimate answer

Proposal Submission

1. Think about something interesting to share
2. Read the call for sessions
merciancollaboration.org.uk/news-call-for-speakers-2022
3. Consider how idea relates to themes/subthemes
4. Submit your proposal! (13th June deadline)
<https://forms.gle/gKyhuh3tkLwG8JzP6>
5. Conference Team reviews submissions
6. Results announced (e. July)



DISCUSSIONS & QUESTIONS

Deadlines & Further Support

Call for Sessions (Speakers) Proposals

merciancollaboration.org.uk/news-call-for-speakers-2022

Session proposals deadline

[Monday 13th June 2022](#)

Conference 2022 pages

merciancollaboration.org.uk/conference-2022/conference-2022

Contact Conference Planning Team

merciancollaboration.org.uk/conference-2022/contacts-and-help

Or the Executive Officer > mercianlibrariescollaboration@gmail.com

- THANK YOU -



Thanks for participating & be sure to let us know your thoughts in the feedback!

See you in September – we hope!

