



Mercian Copyright Group

Update for the March Directors Meeting

Following the confirmation of the Groups establishment as a special interest group in the November meeting the Mercian Copyright Group has met once more on the 17 January 2018 at the University of Warwick. At this meeting the Terms of Reference of the group were discussed and agreed with some small amendments and Group agreed on three officer positions to oversee the organisation of the group. Yvonne Budden was nominated and agreed to continue as Chair of the group with the Vice Chair and Secretary roles to be confirmed.

The Group has launched their new Jiscmail list (mercian-copyright@jiscmail.ac.uk) which will be the primary means for the group members to communicate and arrange the termly meetings. All existing members have now been subscribed on the list as well as three new members since the formalisation of the group. One of the priorities for the next period will be to contact the nine outstanding Mercian Collaboration members where we do not have representation.

On the 2 February the Group held its first open training event, hosted by the University of Leicester. The event, entitled '[Copyright and GDPR: An overview for HEIs](#)' was attended by around 40 people from 18 different HEIs and was run by Naomi Korn (of [Naomi Korn Copyright Consultancy Ltd](#)) with financial assistance approved by the Mercian Collaboration Directors Group. Naomi ran an interactive, non-power-point training workshop aimed at giving an overview of the potential impact of the GDPR legislation on HE Libraries and issues which universities need to practically consider. Moreover, it included discussions focussing on copyright matters of importance to all realms of academia. The event was very well received by attendees and netted the group additional members.

Priorities for the forthcoming period include:

- Arrangements for the Summer term meeting
- Confirmation of Officer group
- Contacting remaining nine MC institutions not currently represented on the group
- Reaching out to equivalent groups in the other regional consortia.

Yvonne Budden, with thanks to Rob Melocha and Tania Rowlett.