

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



### **The Road Ahead: being stronger together** **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019**

**University College Birmingham, McIntyre House, 2 Holland Street, Birmingham  
B3 1PW**

*“Libraries play a critical role in supporting organisational goals and strategies. Our resources and services have demonstrable value and impact helping create and sustain an institution-wide lifelong learning environment.”*

Mirna Peach and Corinne Walker, the Co-Chairs of Council for Learning Resources in Colleges

CoLRiC's 2019 Conference acknowledges and celebrates exemplary practice and innovation across the FE and Sixth Form College sector. The programme features a programme of plenary sessions and a keynote presentation from Liz McGettigan, Director of Digital Library and Cultural Experiences, SOLUS UK. There is also a choice of break-out workshops.

The focus of the conference is on sharing strategies to help us adapt and thrive during challenging financial times.

Liz McGettigan writes: “Libraries and learning resource centres are facing many challenges, not least the chronic underfunding of resources and staffing that have become ‘the new normal’ for most of us.”

How do we revitalise our libraries to deliver an engaging, exciting and collaborative future? How can we harness effective internal and external partnerships and support from the intersection of technology, business and people? How can we share ideas and build more collaborative communities?

Themes the conference will address include:

- Being creative in an uncertain world
- Delivering cutting edge digital services
- Embracing, managing and driving change

‘The Road Ahead’ will also celebrate innovation and team working with the presentation of CoLRiC's prestigious Best Practice Awards, alongside the CoLRiC Jeff Cooper Award for Inspirational Information Professional of the Year.

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Throughout the day there will be plenty of opportunities to network with colleagues and fellow CoLRiC members. Our sponsors will also be exhibiting and presenting their latest products and services.

09:15 - 09:45	Registration
09:45 - 10:00	Welcome from the Chair(s) and introduction to the day
10:00 – 10:45	<p><b>KEYNOTE</b>  <b>Thriving in ‘the new normal’</b>  <b>Liz McGettigan, Director of Digital Library and Cultural Experiences, SOLUS UK</b></p> <p>Libraries and learning resource centres are facing many challenges, not least the chronic underfunding of resources and staffing that have become ‘the new normal’ for most of us.</p> <p>How do we revitalise our libraries to deliver a bold new future - an engaging, exciting and collaborative future? How do we thrive in what has become the new normal? Can we envisage, and create, a bolder, stronger normal that underpins and inspires a better, fairer, smarter and more democratic society? How can we harness effective partnerships and support from the intersection of technology, business and people? How can we get better at building a more collaborative and innovative community?</p> <p>We need to regroup and innovate around the intersections between digital tools, human experiences and social spaces. This cannot primarily be a technological shift but must also be an organisational one. Change and transformation is about ‘ownership’ and solving problems in new ways. Rather than thinking this can only happen with new expensive technologies, we should start with the problems that we need to solve. In too many cases, the technology has been a solution in search of a problem.</p> <p>Our keynote will examine the challenges, barriers and opportunities that we face in an increasingly digital and uncertain environment.</p>
10:45 – 11:15	Refreshments and meet our Sponsors
11:15 – 12:00	<p><b>PLENARY</b>  <b>Chatbots: the future is conversational</b>  <b>Aftab Hussain, Bolton College</b></p> <p>The presentation will provide an overview of how the College is using its chatbot service, Ada, and how it is taking advantage of other voice first services such as Alexa and voice first iOS and Android apps. Aftab will also detail how Ada will mature into a digital assistant for all students, teachers and support teams at the campus.</p>
12:00 – 12:15	<p><b>Sponsor presentations</b>  Presentations on learning resources and services from CoLRiC's sponsors.</p>
12:15 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 – 13:30	<p><b>Awards Presentation Ceremony</b>  Including brief case studies from our 2019 Best Practice Award winners.</p>
13:30 – 14:10	<p><b>PLENARY</b>  <b>Improving technology adoption, Deborah Millar, Grimsby Institute of Further and Higher Education</b></p> <p>This presentation explores how the Grimsby Institute develops digital literacy and drives the adoption of collaborative and innovative edtech tools via an effective staff development programme. With the support of senior leaders and colleagues, a very small team can improve technology adoption, prepare teachers and support staff for the 21st Century and contribute towards Ofsted Outstanding and Beacon Awards for Staff Development.</p>

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14:10 – 14:15	Changeover
14:15 - 14:55	<b>BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS</b> Choose between three breakout sessions: <i>a. Nurturing your teams through change - Heather Roberts, City of Liverpool College</i> <i>b. LIAS: Developing a level 3 LIAS apprenticeship course to the new standard, Gillian Bennet, Kirklees College</i> <i>c. Making sure you're still legal: looking at accessibility in light of the new legislation - Andy Eachus, IT Trainer (Assistive Software &amp; Accessibility) University of Huddersfield</i>
14:55 – 15:00	Changeover
15:00 – 15:15	Final summary & close (by Chairs)
15:15 – 16:00	Tea & cake
16:00	Prize Draw & Home