



Council for Learning
Resources in Colleges

IMPACT

2021 - 2022 Issue 1

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**The voice of
Further Education
and Sixth Form
College Libraries
and Learning
Resource
Services**

EDITORIAL – HELEN SHERWOOD

Much of my time as Editor has been during a pandemic and it's often been a case of putting a positive spin on the situation rather than feeling positive. It has therefore been a pleasure over the last few weeks to make contact with our two award winners, Emma Luby from Bradford College and The Trafford College Group Library Service. Thank you to both for taking time out of their busy start of term schedules to share their award-winning stories. We also have updates from two of our sponsors, Gale and PTFS Europe. The opportunity to read about new resources and products brings a welcome sense of normality.

If you would like to contribute to a future issue of Impact, details of how to submit an article can be found on the back page.

A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRS

Now that the dust is finally (hopefully) beginning to settle on the first few months of another academic year, we thought it was timely to send you our best (and early Christmas) wishes during this period of unprecedented change. These hectic first few weeks across the education sector are challenging (even traumatic) at the best of times, but this year goes beyond what we wistfully used to think of as 'normal.' Enrolment and induction are a perennial activity, but with added complexity.

Exhilarated but anxious returning students are back in the classroom. We are all striving to provide encouragement and support, safe spaces and high-quality catch-up programmes, whilst juggling our own staff pandemic anxieties and COVID-19 variant/Omicron concerns. We are working alongside teaching and student support services staff to create an environment that nurtures learning and enhances the student experience.

CoLRiC exists to support you in any way we can, offering advice, information and support. Please don't hesitate to share your experiences of the new term on our discussion forum. Our recent announcement about the 2021 winners of CoLRiC's two prestigious national awards evidences and showcases how you are all demonstrating creativity, flexibility and innovation. You all add enormous value to the Further Education sector.

Mirna Peach and Corinne Walker, Co-Chairs, on behalf of the Executive Committee



COLRIC NEWS

A new CoLRiC website

Over the summer we launched our new [website](#) and encourage you to give us your feedback.


[CONTACT US](#)
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[QUALITY](#)
[NEWS](#)

The voice of Further Education and Sixth Form College libraries and learning resource services

"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 CoLRiC.



The new site provides access to our portfolio of resources and services including:

- ❖ News and press releases
- ❖ Awards
- ❖ Quality assurance and accreditation
- ❖ Links to social media channels
- ❖ A discussion forum

The [CoLRiC Community](#) and [Advocacy areas](#) of the site will develop into a hub encouraging collaboration, engagement and discussion between all of the membership and the wider world. Our [Executive Committee](#) is profiled on the site and a great source of knowledge, expertise and mentorship.

You and everybody in your team will require a personal CoLRiC password to access some of the content, most notably current and previous issues of our e-newsletter CoLRiC Impact and the document repository. If you have not received an email from us inviting you to create your own password, then please email the Admin team for further advice and information. They will create an account for you and email you with further instructions.

Developing our library community – a call for feedback

A key benefit of CoLRiC membership is **opportunity, community and influence**; bringing together colleagues, developing a sense of community through networking and creating a sense of belonging.

We'd like to sound you and your team members out about the feasibility of establishing a CoLRiC discussion forum specifically for library/learning resources assistants and early career staff. As we envisage it, the forum would provide a space for your colleagues to liaise with each other, compare information and experiences and develop a wider understanding of the further education and sixth form college sector. It would be a like-minded community of colleagues with career aspirations to progress in library, learning and information work, and would encourage discussion and information exchange in an environment independent of heads of service and library managers.

We'd be grateful if you'd share this with your colleagues and get back to us with comments and feedback. Our Admin team will collate the responses - colric@colric.org.uk

Introducing the CoLRiC document repository

A key CoLRiC membership benefit of is access to [our document repository](#).

Over the coming academic year we will invite you to share with the CoLRiC community documents that encompass a wide range of strategic, operational and policy areas. Examples may include job descriptions and person specifications, learning resource guides and mission statements, for example. All documents will be redacted, anonymised and indexed only by category, College type and year of submission.

Now that the new website is live, look out for calls from the Admin team to submit documents on specific topics. Colleagues who are planning recruitment or organisational restructures or who need inspiration and support to author strategy documents or Quality Improvement Plans and Self-Assessment Reports, will find this resource an invaluable reference tool. Members will be able to download and adapt any document.





CoLRiC Awards – celebrating great ideas and great people

The winner of the 2021 CoLRiC Innovative Practice Award (CIPA) is the Trafford College Group Library Service for 'LibraryLive – integrating the Library Service into curriculum delivery.'

As Microsoft Teams became a key method of delivering teaching and learning during lockdown, the team at Trafford College Group integrated library resources and support into the new learning environment. The project is a wonderful example of designing and delivering a rapid response to changing circumstances.

The winner of the Jeff Cooper Inspirational Information Professional of the Year Award 2021 is Emma Luby from Bradford College, praised for her 'enthusiasm, resourcefulness, commitment to staff development, and focus on student achievement.'

Appreciation and thanks go to [Emma Duffield](#) for being the external judge for the Innovative Practice Award, to [IS Oxford](#) for their sponsorship and to Liz McGettigan, Director of [Solus UK Ltd.](#) for being our external judge for the Jeff Cooper Award.

Please visit [CoLRiC News](#) for further information including other commended and highly commended nominations.

Trending topics on our discussion forum

Summer was a busy period on [our discussion forum](#). It's a great place to ask a question, elicit feedback, share ideas or concerns or simply to reach out to your peers.

Recent topics provide a snapshot of your everyday priorities, considerations and concerns:

- ❖ Multi-factor authentication
- ❖ A request for recommendations for a supplier of book return bins – and lots of useful answers
- ❖ Job vacancies
- ❖ Discussions on alternative ways to carry out library inductions
- ❖ Ideas for what to do with withdrawn book stock
- ❖ Latest thoughts on mask mandates in the library
- ❖ E-book platforms for FE
- ❖ A question - and plenty of responses - about allowing public access to your LRC
- ❖ Member experiences with a subscription service for e-books

Please contact the Admin team on colric@colric.org.uk if you have any questions, suggestions or need help logging into the website.



EBSCO



GALE RESOURCES UPDATE – Allison Zink, Sales Representative, Gale - A Cengage company

New Academic Year Brings New Gale Resources for FE Colleges

Gale has expanded its partnership with Jisc and recently launched a second FE college resource package called Gale In-Context. This set of resource combines easily searchable, mobile-responsive functionality on our intuitive Gale interface with authoritative and current digital resources covering periodicals, journals, newspapers, videos, charts, and infographics. Organised by topic, the seven modules included are Biography, College, Environmental Studies, Global Issues, Opposing Viewpoints, Science, and World History.

Each subject-specific resource incorporates eye-catching topic overview pages to bring together nonfiction materials that support curriculum objectives, critical analysis techniques, and database skills. As with our Gale News, Business, and Reference package, Gale In-Context is available [via the Jisc website and priced by band](#). If you're interested in a free trial, then please email Gale Sales Rep Allison Zink at allison.zink@cengage.com.

Raise Awareness and Increase Usage of Your Gale Resources with Complimentary Training

Gale's complimentary training is for more than just librarians. Our webinars are customisable for teaching staff as well as students. For teaching staff, our webinars typically include a resource overview, a demonstration, and a Q&A. For students, our demos are tailored to their particular subject area or a certain module as either a stand-alone session or joining in on a class period. If interested, please get in touch with our trainer Carolyn Beckford at carolyn.beckford@cengage.com.



ASPEN - A BRAND NEW LIBRARY ENGAGEMENT PLATFORM - Andrew Auld, Commercial Director, PTFS Europe

Aspen is the first new discovery platform to hit the library market for several years. It was developed in response to the evolving need for libraries of all sizes to present their increasingly diverse offering in a more attractive and engaging format but in a more cost effective way. ByWater Solutions, a US Koha LMS support company, already had over 250 sites running on Aspen by 2019. Now that number is in the thousands and Aspen is meeting the complex needs of multi-type and multi-site library consortia and other libraries. Aspen Library Engagement Platform is an open source solution and, as such, PTFS Europe started becoming involved in its promotion and development in 2020 and we have quickly seen a lot of interest in it.

We're probably all familiar with many of the proprietary discovery solutions on the market (and maybe even some of the open source solutions like Blacklight and Vufind) so why is Aspen different?


Aspen is a broad platform for content but also serves as an engagement platform for your students and staff and the wider community you serve. Libraries typically have many resources and Aspen is designed to promote all parts of your library collection. It will help your users to discover every corner of your collection with virtual shelf browsing, 'related content' and 'more like this' and with reviews, highlight panels and social media integration. What's more, it can index resources and collections outside of the core library catalogue. For example, if you have content on your college's website, a local archive or a departmental database that is relevant to a search in Aspen, it can appear in the results for a user.



Of course, key to an academic library is connectivity between offline and online resources. Aspen works seamlessly across your physical and digital collections. With proven depth integration with market leading knowledge bases, your e-content is as discoverable as your physical collection. However, endless results lists of thousands of results are a thing of the past with Aspen's 'bento box' style results view - segregating results by collection type in a user-friendly way.

Just because it is a system that packs a punch in terms of functionality and internal complexity, that doesn't create a barrier in administration. On the contrary, Aspen is easy for librarians to administer with web based admin access, a straightforward content management system, wysiwyg (what you see is what you get) editors and pop-up help text just where you need it.

If you have a group of libraries, Aspen is consortia friendly and, combined with Koha's flexible library group functionality, it enables your users to access resources right across your library infrastructure.



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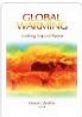
[SIGN IN](#)

by Keyword

in Combined Results

ARTICLES & DATABASES

[SEE ALL 1,946,205 RESULTS >](#)




1) GLOBAL WARMING : LOOKING BEYOND KYOTO

AUTHOR Zedillo Ponce de León, Ernesto

FORMAT eBook

FULL TEXT Full text available

The latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reflects the growing international consensus that the earth's climate is being changed by anthropogenic greenhouse gasses. Evidence presented by the IPCC and others points to the potential for increasingly dangerous weather, new disease outbreaks, regional water shortages, the loss of habitat and species, and other disturbing developments that could have profound social...




2) GLOBAL WARMING : A VERY SHORT INTRODUCTION

AUTHOR Maslin, Mark

FORMAT eBook

FULL TEXT Full text available

Global Warming is one of the most controversial scientific issues of the twenty first century. This book provides an informative, up-to-date, and readable book about the predicted impacts of global warming and the surprises that could be in store for us in the near future.



3) GLOBAL WARMING AND AGRICULTURE

AUTHOR JonasLabee, Stephanya Lynn


FORMAT eBook

FULL TEXT Full text available

Global Warming and Agriculture deals with the phenomenon of global warming and the relationship between global warming and agricultural crop farming and the impact of global warming on the


COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF AURORA

[SEE ALL 25 RESULTS >](#)



1) COLORADO CLIMATE ACTION PLAN: A STRATEGY TO ADDRESS GLOBAL WARMING

FORMAT: eBook




2) AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH: THE PLANETARY EMERGENCY OF GLOBAL WARMING AND WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT IT

AUTHOR Gore, Albert

FORMAT: Book


Published to tie in to a documentary film of the same name, "An Inconvenient Truth" is Gore's battle cry about what needs to be done about global warming.



3) GLOBAL WARMING: NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY DIRECTIONS

AUTHOR Ezzard, Martha M

FORMAT: eBook



4) GLOBAL WARMING AND OTHER BOLLOCKS: THE TRUTH ABOUT ALL THOSE SCIENCE SCARE

Our first two UK libraries using Aspen are Sefton Libraries and Newcastle City Libraries, although the platform is equally suitable to all types of libraries from HE/FE through to health and specialist libraries. The common thread is that most libraries now invest in expensive electronic collections on top of their valuable print collections and it is important to show value for money and usage of these investments. Aspen requires less staff input to produce a higher quality digital presence and provides a space for the library to build their own presence (rather than rely a page or two on an institutional website!). In turn this enhances the reputation of the library service.

Aspen Library Engagement Platform works with a range of library systems, not just open source ones like Koha! It's also eContent rich, integrating seamlessly with all the major eContent providers. The web builder allows you to highlight special collections, create events and hold additional library information. You can create your own Browse collections to allow you to curate collections you wish to highlight or promote. You can also index third party web sites. Of course, Aspen is responsive too and has a community developed app, so all this is available on your mobile devices.

If you would like to find out more about how Aspen can unlock your library's resources and support your goals to support literacy and learning, get in touch with PTFs Europe:

sales@ptfs-europe.com **01483 378728.**



Aspen Discovery



COMMUNITY
COLLEGE
of AURORA



COLLEGE
of AURORA

COLLEGE of AURORA

LISTS SIGN IN

ESL by Keyword in Library Catalog SEARCH

NARROW YOUR RESULTS

CAMPUS

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF AURORA (83)

FICTION/NON-FICTION/MORE

ITEM TYPE

ESL COLLECTION

ENGLISH ESPANOL

Books (105) eBook (45) Audio Books (30)

ENTIRE COLLECTION (303) COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF AURORA (125) AVAILABLE NOW (109) AVAILABLE ONLINE (40)

SORT BY Best Match HIDE COVERS COVERS LIST

1) **ESL WRITERS: GUIDE FOR WRITING CENTER TUTORS**

PUBLISHER Not Supplied
PUB. DATE Not Supplied
LANGUAGE English

BOOK ON SHELF

SHOW EDITIONS

Community College of Aurora - CentreTech - ENGLISH - 2ND LANGUAGE 1 available
Community College of Aurora - CentreTech - ENGLISH - 2ND LANGUAGE 1 available

PE1404 .E83 2004
PE1404 .E83 2009

PLACE HOLD

"For tutors, this guide gives them the know-how to make informed choices as they conduct sessions with ESL students. For writing center directors, ESL Writers is the perfect training text, and its examples and scenarios are the ideal jumping-off point for staff meetings and group problem-solving sessions."--BOOK JACKET

MORE INFO ADD A REVIEW ADD TO LIST SHARE

2) **THE ESL WRITER'S HANDBOOK**

PUBLISHER University of Michigan Press
PUB. DATE c2010
LANGUAGE English

RESERVE ON SHELF

SHOW EDITION

Community College of Aurora - CentreTech - RESERVE 1 available

PE112B .E82 2010

MORE INFO ADD A REVIEW ADD TO LIST SHARE

EXPLORE MORE

IS Oxford reflect on the experience of sponsoring the CoLRiC Innovative Practice Award 2021

This year IS Oxford sponsored the CoLRiC Innovative Practice Award (CIPA), given to the team that can demonstrate the highest value and impact of their service provision. We were delighted to have our own Emma Duffield, Sales Manager for IS Oxford, on the judging panel.

The nominees all submitted examples of inspiring and creative teamwork and 'lockdown-centric' initiatives that reflected the adaptability of the profession in adverse circumstances. Emma was impressed by the standard of the shortlisted candidates and reported:

'It was a pleasure to be involved with both sponsoring and judging this award. The resourcefulness and resilience of the library teams involved was fantastic. Well done to everyone who submitted – you're all amazing!'

The winner of the 2021 CoLRiC Innovative Practice Award (CIPA) is the Trafford College Group Library Service for 'LibraryLive – integrating the Library Service into curriculum delivery'. The winners have received a trophy and were invited to share their story with the CoLRiC community.

In our next two articles we hear from our 2021 Awards winners.

CoLRiC Innovative Practice Award (CIPA) winners The Trafford College Group.

LIBRARYLIVE – THE INTEGRATION OF LIBRARY RESOURCES WITHIN THE CURRICULUM – Karen Hurley, Library Service Manager and Alan Pitman, Library Service Facilitator, The Trafford College Group

Background

The Trafford College Group was formed in 2018 with the merger of Trafford College and Stockport College and operates across three sites. We are a Microsoft Showcase College, offering a wide variety of courses from entry level up to HE level, including apprenticeships and community adult education. The Library Service operates three Libraries, with a Library Service Manager, two Supervisors and a team of Library Service Facilitators. In May 2021, the Group expanded to incorporate the Cheadle and Marple Colleges, taking the Library Service to five campus libraries.

All is change

The move to remote learning when the country went into lockdown expedited the Groups Digital Strategy as the curriculum had to move from Moodle to Microsoft Teams as quickly as possible rather than over the planned three years. This posed a challenge for our Service which relied heavily on Moodle to deliver content and access to services. We needed a new digital home which would have no cost implications, be responsive across different devices, integrate with Teams and offer seamless access and a quality experience for learners and staff.

The challenge

As a Microsoft Showcase College, Alan Pitman, Library Service Facilitator and Team Digital Champion, selected SharePoint as a potential solution. Drawing on wider support from the Microsoft Tech Community and freely available resources, a proof of concept demo was created to showcase potential site design, features and layout. Approval for the project was granted and work began to create the resource. The whole team was involved in creating content, which necessitated the team developing new digital skills. This has raised their confidence in the use of Office 365 and fostered a better understanding of the integration between Teams, SharePoint and OneDrive, which has improved our service as staff are more confident supporting students with these technologies. As we were working from home, training was conducted via Teams, with detailed workflows and videos. The process of creating LibraryLive brought the team together and gave us a real sense of purpose during lockdown, whilst also maintaining our remote service delivery.

Learner involvement

The student experience informed all aspects of the project. Students gave feedback on front page designs, test Subject Guides and site navigation and informed our decisions throughout the process. Students were consulted on the name - with the popular choice emerging as LibraryLive. We also created our own branding to ensure LibraryLive was instantly recognisable within the digital environment and elsewhere in College where it is promoted.



Integration

In September 2020 LibraryLive was launched, ready for the new academic year, harnessing the full potential of SharePoint for students and staff across our organisation. LibraryLive was integral to the delivery of the blended learning model the College adopted to deliver teaching during 2020-21, with half of students being taught face-to-face on campus and the other half working remotely from home, and again, proved essential in the later lockdown.

One of our key objectives was better integration of Library resources within the curriculum and SharePoint and Teams enabled this. Tailored Subject Guides, differentiated at study level, are embedded into each Course Microsoft Team, placing resources and the Library Service at the centre of learner activity. LibraryLive is added as a Channel and appears at the top of the Channel list, with the Subject Guide linked as a tab within the Curriculum Team course. LibraryLive is currently integrated on over 800 Teams courses across the Group.

LibraryLive is never 'finished'. The flexibility and full control we have means we can develop and add new features using 365 apps. In addition to the core subject pages and service information, we have developed pages which support reading for pleasure, our multi-faith calendar, Health and Wellbeing resources and our engagement activities which are linked to tutorial topics. Using third party web parts we are able to utilise a carousel to feature lists of titles from our catalogue. The News section is integrated into the Student Portal, which is also a SharePoint solution, so that Library news items appear on the homepage, great for promoting events and the Library Service itself.

The screenshot displays the LibraryLive website interface. At the top is a purple navigation bar with the following links: LibraryLive, Library Services, Subject Guides FE, Subject Guides HE, eResources and Study Skills, Wellbeing Resources, Find a Book, and Edit. Below the navigation bar is a secondary bar with '+ New', 'Page details', and 'Analytics' on the left, and 'Published 10/5/2021' and 'Edit' on the right.

The main content area is divided into three columns:

- Quick Links:** A vertical list of purple buttons with icons for: Find a book - Catalogue, Subject Guides, eResources and eJournals, Renew your Loans, Opening Times, How to use our Libraries, and Contact Us.
- News:** A section featuring three news items:
 - October half-term:** Accompanied by an image of autumn leaves, the text states: "October Half-term All of our Libraries will be closed during October half-term, but you can access all of our..."
 - Theory Test Pro:** Accompanied by an image of traffic signs, the text states: "Theory Test Pro provides a complete question bank of driving theory questions and hazard perception..."
 - Put yourself on the map!** Accompanied by an image of pushpins, the text states: "As part of Inclusion Week, we've launched our latest activity here in TCG Libraries, where you can put..."
- TCG Libraries Twitter:** A section featuring a weather widget for Manchester, Greater Manchester, United Kingdom (11°C, Rain Showers, 11°/8° 10/05/2021, MSN Weather), a Twitter post from @TCGLibraries about National Libraries Week, and a "Welcome" message for Libraries Week 2021 (Oct 4-10) with a photo of a group of people.

At the bottom of the page, there are two small promotional images: one for the 18th Edition IET Wiring Regulations and another for a colorful abstract graphic.

Innovation

Through our interactions and conversations with vendors, the Microsoft Support Community and Jisc, we discovered that we are the first FE Library to adopt SharePoint as a solution for integrating resources.

Impact

LibraryLive has raised the profile of the Library Service across the College Group and is used as an exemplar of good practice for intranet design, with Library staff now supporting other colleagues in using SharePoint. It has also placed the Library at the heart of Office 365 within our organisation, giving us a significant stake in teaching and learning within the College.

'Library Service Facilitators are pro-actively working alongside curriculum to enable learners to successfully access subject-relevant online resources. The implementation of our digital strategic approach to embed links to library resources directly within our Teams teaching and learning environment has proved very successful. Since the seamless integration, staff and learner engagement has increased dramatically. Tutors can more easily identify and signpost resources to differentiate learning and for independent learning opportunities and this is working to add value and enrich teaching, learning and assessment and improve outcomes for our learners.'

Learning Technology Lead, Department of Teaching, Learning and Innovation

LibraryLive Library Services Subject Guides FE Subject Guides HE eResources and Study Skills ... Edit Share

+ New Send to Promote Page details Immersive Reader Analytics Published 10/5/2021 Edit

celebrate Black History Month in October 2021!

Black History Month aims to celebrate black people, history and culture, and reflects on what it has meant and continues to mean to be Black. In the UK, Black History Month occurs every October. The UK's first Black History Month took place in 1987 and was created and advocated by **Akyaba Addai-Sebo**, a journalist, analyst and Pan-African activist who is of Ghanaian descent. This year's theme is 'Proud to be', inspired by the 2020 Black Lives Matter movement. Check out our page for more articles, resources and events!

Akyaba Addai-Sebo, 1987.

Articles



Five Black British Figures History Forgets



Celebrating 10 People Who Made



The History of Black People in Britain



The Black British History You May Not

LibraryLive has engaged our students and visits to LibraryLive have increased month on month. This has had a dramatic impact on the use of ebooks, even increasing our position in the Jisc ebooks for FE Charts where we moved from 34th to 9th within one academic year.

And most importantly, students and staff have provided feedback to say that LibraryLive has improved assignments and supported them when studying during this difficult time; demonstrating the role the Library Service can play in enhancing and enriching teaching and learning and improving outcomes for our learners.

'From a teacher's perspective I think that it is great. Very intuitive and I love the fact that it is easier to access. I will also be using it as a useful source for flipped learning.'

Tutor feedback

'Librarylive has been a godsend during the pandemic. As I mark assignments I can tell which students have used the facility and which have not. There is a correlation between the merit and distinctions awarded and those students who use LibraryLive.'

Tutor feedback

'I don't know how I could do this course without LibraryLive.'

Access student

Our ethos is to create welcoming, accessible and informative physical spaces to enhance the learner experience; LibraryLive is an extension of this and provides the same space but in the virtual world, which was so crucial to students during lockdown.

Karen Hurley – Library Service Manager karen.hurley@tcg.ac.uk

Alan Pitman – Library Service Facilitator alan.pitman@tcg.ac.uk

SPOTLIGHT ON.....

Emma Luby, Senior Library Assistant, Bradford College – Jeff Cooper Inspirational Information Professional of the Year Award winner 2021

How did you become a Senior Library Assistant ?

I have been working in the Bradford College library since 2004, starting as a library assistant. I have always enjoyed my role and I have seen many changes over the years. When the opportunity to progress to a senior library assistant role became available at the end of 2019, I applied immediately as I could see that there was a fantastic opportunity to introduce new, positive changes in the library. I was appointed as the senior library assistant at the beginning of 2020, just before the first lockdown began.

Tell us a bit about your *Inspiration through Isolation* guide

When my team and I found ourselves working from home during the first lockdown, I immediately missed the daily contact with students and my colleagues. I made sure to keep to a routine but soon got frustrated with the amount of time I was spending indoors with little motivation to do anything of interest. I guessed that I would not be the only person feeling like this and felt I needed some inspiration and motivation to put my extra spare time to good use and maybe others would appreciate the same. I spoke with my manager who gave me her full support to create what I saw as a mood board covering activities which most people enjoy. I covered six topics, photography, art, crafts, writing, yoga and cooking and went on to create a page in our online library guides to promote each of these interests. On each page I provided links to our eBooks, YouTube videos and useful websites. The aim was to encourage and inspire students and staff to find something they could do or introduce them to something new which they would never have thought about.



What is your favourite part of the job?

I find it extremely hard to decide on my favourite part of the job. I enjoy many aspects of it, but I can try to cut it down to three main areas which I love the most! They would have to be, helping students to achieve and get the most out of their studies whether it be introducing them to all the fantastic resources we have available in the library and seeing them come back on a regular basis or offering work experience to students which both the library staff and students find incredibly rewarding. I enjoy working with my team to try and help them progress in areas which interest them. They feel more fulfilled in their role through extra training, extra responsibilities or introducing ideas which they would like to see happen in the library. I also love to be open to any new ideas. If something is possible, we strive to make it happen and I enjoy the challenge of figuring out exactly how we can.

What have been the biggest challenges with the online reading groups?

The biggest challenge we have faced with the reading groups are that they became so popular, it was difficult to schedule the library assistants and myself time to run them once we were working both back on campus as well as from home. It took a lot of work to make it happen as, at one point, we were providing a full library service, a postal service for borrowing books, an extended reservations service and 12 hours of reading groups each week. We made it work between us as the reading groups were so appreciated by the students that we wanted to make sure we kept them going no matter how busy we were.

With students now returning to campus what would you like your next project to be?

More reading groups! But this time we are planning that they will be face to face on campus with hopefully the choice of joining us online too. If there was an interest, I would like to introduce other reading groups for other students, for example, those studying GCSE English to read from and discuss core texts which are currently being studied. I would ideally like most subject areas to feel they are contributing to the library and making it their own space for example, displaying student's artwork, photography, fashion designs, pictures from theatre students, hair, beauty, and make-up projects, just to show what our students are doing and to inspire others. In my mind, I imagine displaying their work alongside the textbooks so when other students come to use them, they can see what their fellow students have accomplished.

And finally.....sum yourself up in three words

Calm, grounded, fun.

THE BACK PAGE

CoLRiC encourages the submission of articles by all members for publication in CoLRiC Impact. To discuss ideas for articles in advance please [send an e-mail](#) with a short outline of proposed content.

If you submit an article about the service at your college, please consider including a summary of key service information that will provide the reader with some context and help them to compare with their own college e.g. staffing numbers/types/opening hours.

Four issues of Impact are scheduled for the 2021-2022 academic year. Themes for the remaining issues are outlined below. If you would like to submit an article, please note the advice below and the closing dates for submissions.

March 2022 – Wellbeing – deadline 21st January 2022

May 2022 - All change – deadline 25th March 2022

July 2022 – End of year reflections – deadline 24th June 2022

To submit an article please email the following to colric@colric.org.uk: (a) an unformatted Word document; (b) any associated files or good quality images, if prompted send images as 'Actual size', head shots should be sent against a clear background; (c) any recommended further reading; and (d) any links to any external content to be embedded into the final e-newsletter. There is a word count limit of 1,200 on articles. Word count limits for other regular features will be confirmed with members ahead of submission. The CoLRiC Impact editorial team will be responsible for formatting, editing, and proof-reading all contributions before publication. Please include the email addresses and job titles of all contributing authors. All authors will retain their copyright.

