Academic library training consortia in the UK: a model for success?

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CPD in the academic sector: background

- Strategic management of CPD
- Formal infrastructure
- Designated coordinating manager
- Explicit commitment in strategic plans
- Increasing CPD activity in last 5 years
- Organisational changes/service development
- External validation
Staff training providers

Large market: rich provision in the UK

• Commercial organisations
• Individual consultants
• Professional organisations
• Academic departments
• Library consortia
Academic library consortia

Aims include:

• Improved access/delivery of services
• Collaborative procurement of services
• Influencing government policy
• Sharing experience
• Staff development and training

Trend towards enlargement
Examples of UK academic training consortia

- NoWAL: North West England
- SALCTG: Scotland & North East England
- ANLTC: Ireland
- M25 Consortium & CPD25
CPD25 – M25 Consortium
CPD25 events portfolio

2003/4 statistics
• Nearly 70 events and 1,400 participants

Types of events
• Visits
• Seminars, workshops, short courses
• Professional accreditation: CILIP Chartership programme
CPD25 structure: task groups

- Operations management group
- Legal compliance group
- User resources/services group
- Career development group
- Personal effectiveness & management group
- Administrator
CPD25 Challenges: One

Funding models
Mixed economy approach:
Subscription + payment for events
• Calculating event costing
• Surpluses/contingencies
• Selling events management packages
CPD25 Challenges: two

Organisational structure

• Formal structure
• Regular task/steering group meetings
• Annual plenary session for all
• Outline programme drafted in advance
• Full time administrator from consortium
CPD25 Challenges: three

- Relationship to the parent consortium
- Competition
- Marketing events
- Evaluating effectiveness
- Demonstrating value for money
Future directions for CPD25

• Supporting new CILIP professional framework
• Moving beyond an events programme: mentorship/staff exchange schemes/commissioning training materials
• Cross sectoral working/collaboration: workplace, public, further education libraries
Transferring the UK model

• Academic consortia based on sharing resources and experience
• Experience sharing leads to more formal training groups
• National policy momentum
• Geographic dispersal and urban
• Creativity and technology help
Criteria for successful consortium approach

- Understanding of geography
- Transport links
- Potential level of participating staff
- Strategic understanding of CPD
- Most of all: Leadership, enthusiasm & determination
Thank you for listening

Mange takk og god dag

http://www.cpd25.ac.uk