

IGeLU Conference - Report from EPUG-UKI

Prague, October 9th 2018

Committee Membership

Current Committee:

Amy Warner May – Chair

Alex Forrest – Secretary

Sara Burnell – Treasurer

Catherine Broadley – Committee Members

Paula Fitzpatrick from the University of Newcastle completed 4 years of being EPUG secretary. Alex Forrest from the University of Edinburgh took over at the October conference 2017.

Greg Ince, from University of the West of England (UWE) who are a Summon customer, took on a new role so could no longer spend time with EPUG. Catherine Broadley, from Manchester Metropolitan University, took over the role and they are also a Summon customer.

EPUG-UKI has about 80 paid-up member institutions, of which a handful are Summon customers. Some smaller libraries have not re-joined as they review their finances.

Activities in 2017/18

Annual Conference

- Two day conference held 16th and 17th October 2017 at the King's House Conference Centre in Manchester.
- It did attract different attendees, more from Scotland and the North of England and obviously from Manchester.
- Feedback on a non-south east of England venue very positive
- Attendance 100+ over the 2 days
- Presentations by Ex-Libris staff and customers + COPAC on the NBK project
- Included visit to the John Rylands Library for limited number (which was wonderful!)
- Conference cost considerably more than the previous year when using BL – but this was expected and worthwhile as we get a favourable rate at the BL.

Committee meetings

- Face-to-face meeting at the British Library in January 2018
- Discussed feedback from surveys (contacting attendees directly provoked positive response).
- Discussed holding the AGM in 2019 in Edinburgh
- Discussed AGM which would be followed up with an Alma Analytics day AND a Summon day
- Reviewed our JISC mailing lists in light of GDPR– will get rid of some old redundant ones

- Definitely worth meeting together rather than doing everything by phone. Monthly calls are useful as well.

AGM

- Held on Monday 16th April 2018 at the British Library
- Least well attended AGM in a long time – surprising/worrying...
- Presentations by Ex-Libris staff and customers, including GDPR
- Membership will remain at £150 per annum

Analytics Day

- Held Tuesday 17th April 2018 at the British Library
- Numbers limited to 60 and almost booked out – quite a squeeze into the room
- John Krug (ex-Lancaster University) was brought back + ExLibris help
- Very mixed knowledge audience. Everyone seemed to get something out of the day but possibly not as much as they were hoping.

Summon Day

- Held in parallel Tuesday 17th April 2018 at the British Library
- Included a product update from Brent Cooke, presentation and question and answer session about contacting support, presentation about eye tracking research currently happening at Manchester Metropolitan and session on using Summon analytics.
- Many attendees were not members of EPUG. For many the only product they purchase from Ex Libris is Summon and/or 360 Link. Although many enjoyed the day, they told us their institutions would not be able to afford for them to attend if they had to pay for membership of EPUG.
- A Summon session as only one part of a more general Ex Libris products day would not attract Summon customers to attend.

Community Zone Day

- Held Wednesday 18th April 2018 at the University of East London
- Numbers limited but well attended, with representation from ExLibris
- Attendees a little surprised to hear that so many people were having the same problems
- Definitely worthwhile – new mailing list set up as a result of this.

Looking Ahead

- Autumn Conference will be back at the British Library in London.
- Royal Holloway would like to host a “customer services” day in December. EPUG will support this.
- We have booked the AGM in Edinburgh and will have a follow up day. We hope that a non-London venue will be seen positively again.
- It’s still tricky getting together agendas for the AGM & Conference.

Sara Burnell

Treasurer, EPUG-UKI, August 2018