

**M25 SpeedMeet**  
**October 2024**

**Vicky Robertson**



**Questions**

- **Who are you, where are you based and what do you do?**

I am Vicky Robertson and I am Deputy Librarian at the UCL School of Pharmacy (SoP) Library. I line manage one full-time member of staff and four part-time staff. I have worked at the SoP Library since September 2003 and started off as Reader Services (Assistant Librarian) before becoming Deputy Librarian in 2005.

- **What do you most enjoy about your job?**

I most enjoy that I get to do a bit of everything in my job: Help Point work dealing with customers, dealing with enquiries physically and virtually from customers, undertaking teaching sessions if necessary, selecting and acquiring stock for the library, liaising with academic and support staff, undertaking training sessions for library staff and also being responsible for the site's health and safety.

I also enjoy working with the team of staff at SoP Library (I have worked with quite a few over the years) as we are very supportive of each other, share knowledge with each other and all

work together to contribute to the high standard of library service we provide for our customers.

- **What motivates you in your work?**

I'm motivated by helping customers with their enquiries and contributing to the work undertaken by the SoP staff and students as part of their teaching and research. I'm also motivated by learning from the colleagues I work with, sharing my experiences with them and encouraging the career development of staff I line manage and work with.

- **How can/has the M25 Consortium supported you in your career?**

I have been a member of the cpd25 Quality Standards and Legal Frameworks Task Group Two since March 2008 and I became Chair of the Task Group in 2013. I have attended lots of training sessions and visits held by cpd25 and have found these to be beneficial to my career for keeping up to date and learning what works well and doesn't work well at other libraries.

Being part of the Task Group has enabled me to enhance my skills (taking minutes, chairing meetings and helping to organise events and visits by liaising with library and information professionals at other libraries and information centres) and to meet and network with a wide variety of people on my Task Group and across the M25 at events and visits.

- **What would it surprise people to know about you?**

In my spare time I play the saxophone which I thoroughly enjoy. I have never played professionally but would like to one day in my dreams.

- **Complete the sentence: If I wasn't working in a library I would be**

a children's television presenter because I have always enjoyed working with children especially in a public library many years ago and previously wanted to be a children's librarian. I enjoyed dressing up as a pirate and having children chase round after me in the library.

My ambition when I was younger was that I wanted to be a Blue Peter presenter or work as a presenter in the BBC Broom Cupboard. I did my work experience at the BBC Research Library in White City as part of my undergraduate course at Thames Valley University and met some BBC children's TV presenters as part of that work.