

Go Digital

The British Library, 16 May 2011

With the current explosion of digital technologies this event presented an opportunity to explore the implications for researchers. It was also a way to discover how it fitted with the agenda for their professional and personal development.

Quality of output and who benefited:

Participants were given the opportunity to hear from a wide range of speakers including a researcher and specialists from diverse institutions. It was important to highlight the diversity of what was available and to familiarise participants not only with the jargon but also use of these different tools.

Attendees comprised those involved in the support of the personal development of researchers.

What leadership did Vitae show?

By running this event, Vitae highlighted the importance of keeping up to date with new technologies to staying connected with the researcher community. Participants were given the opportunity of learning how they could make the best use of this new digital area and understanding the necessity to communicate and develop further their provision for researchers.

Impact on the audience:

As a result of the event, speakers have been invited by participants to deepen the conversation on this subject in their own HEIs and to develop collaboration.

Quotes from participants:

‘It was useful to see the range of uses of social media in HEI's and gain a greater understanding of what has been investigated’

‘I found this event most useful in the seeing the practical applications of technology in research.’

‘We are going for a JISC bid on social networking and the research curriculum from a Consortia model, and will continue to develop our network. I also made some useful contact for potential advisors / partners, which was much appreciated.’

Collaboration:

One of the direct outcomes of the event was the development of a network around this topic. The event also enabled the London Hub to work closely with the British Library and the Open University.

Sustainability:

The hub event fed nicely into the Digital Researcher event offered to researchers, however the London hub has no current plans to run another event on this topic. Vitae has since been involved in several projects in this area including a JISC project on digital literacy