

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY



Loughborough  
University

# Student EDI Curator Project

## Journey and Reflections

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# Overview

- About Pilkington
- How this project came about
- Interviews
- Preparations
- Managing the process
- Outcomes
- Reflections (staff and student)
- What's next?



# About Pilkington Library

- Based on Loughborough University campus
- Can host 1,400 students
- Only library on campus
- Upside down cone shape
- Four levels
- Staff EDI group set up in early 2022



# The Library and EDI core plan

- Equity – decrease inequitable outcomes for identified groups.
  - Access and Participation Plan- Placements and Progression
- Diversity - Improve levels of diversity.
  - Diversity of voices producing output in the Library space – co-creation and collaboration
- Inclusivity – Create a vibrant and inclusive community where all belong.
  - Library output showcasing lived experience and marginalised groups through creative output.

# How this project came about

- EDI initiative aligning with Career Service Talent Match Scheme
- Wanted to give students a voice to our collections
- Successful stories
- Highlight underrepresented resources, artists and authors



# Preparations

- Liaising with other universities
- Creating our own internship guide
- Setting up 1-2-1 meeting with each library team
- Setting up payroll and budgets



# Intended Outcomes

**Core: To explore marginalised/hidden communities and highlight through a chosen theme/topic.**

- Designing and creating a physical and digital display for the chosen topic/theme
- Create a reading list about the chosen topic/theme
- Looking through the library collection to curate materials for the project
- Purchasing resources for the display
- Producing a reflective blog about the internship
- Preparing digital information about the topic/theme for the library EDI webpages portfolio – **outreach for distances learners or student who may not come to the library**
- Liaising with open research team to upload the work to the LU repository

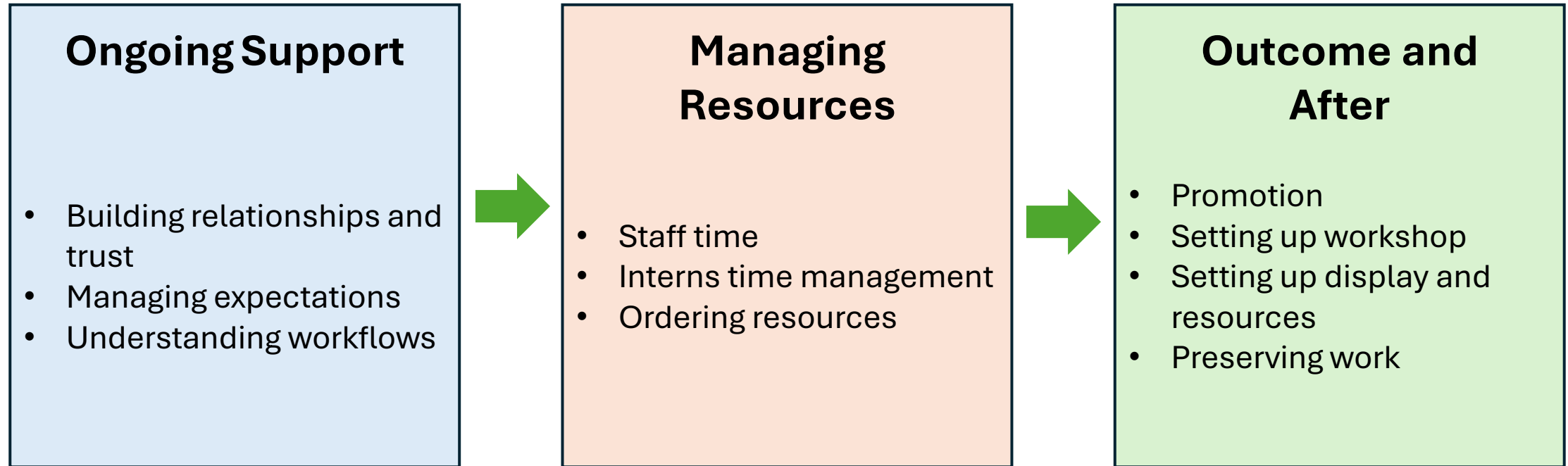
# Interviews

- 3 interviews took place
- Took inclusive measures
- Requesting from students:
  - Their reasoning for applying
  - Their ideas/themes
  - Experiences with project management and budgets
  - Experiences working with other teams/groups
  - Understanding of EDI in a professional setting



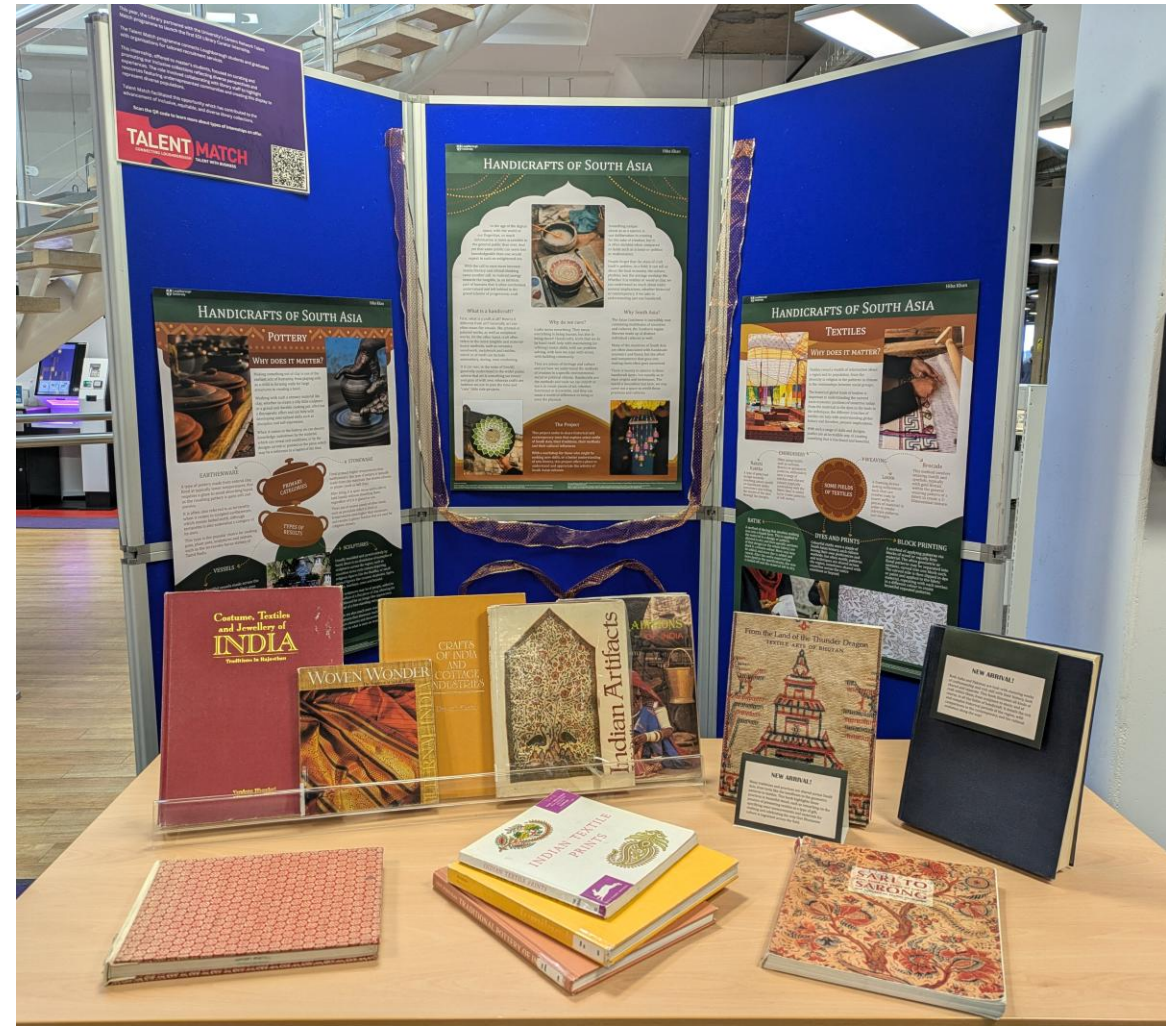


# Managing the process



# Outcomes

- One week poster presentation highlighting collections and new resources
- Compressive reading list
- Workshop event
- [Repository](#) and [webpage](#) preservation



# Handicrafts of South Asia

## The Curator

Hello there! I'm Hiba, a Creative Writing Master's student with a history of Graphic Design. I've grown up all around the world, which is partially why I am so enthused to share about culture and art from the places I've been but also the ones I never have. We live in a massive, interconnected and multicultural society, one that's often boiled down to stereotypes and power dynamics between countries, so I always work towards bringing out the complexities of cultures and appreciating them beyond the stereotype, especially in regards to the creative fields they may specialise in.

### Reading List

Discover key resources and readings



### A Reflection

Learn more about my experience as an EDI Student Curator



## The Project

In the age of the digital space, the world is at our fingertips with so much information is more accessible to the general public than ever. And yet, it is often found that this same public is less knowledgeable about the wider world than we would expect from such an era of enlightenment. This is the issue this project seeks to

### > Library

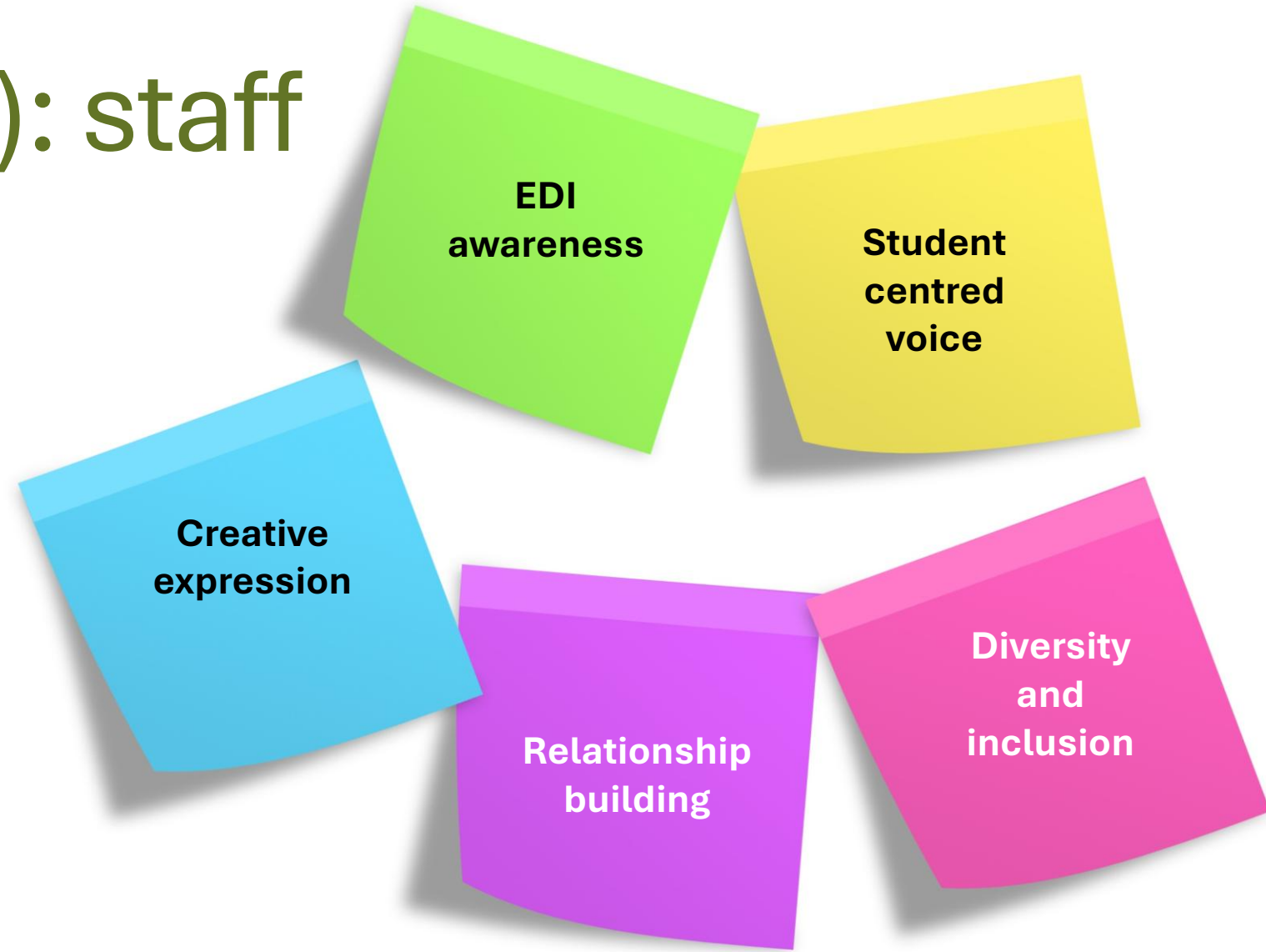
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# Reflections (1): staff

## Benefits

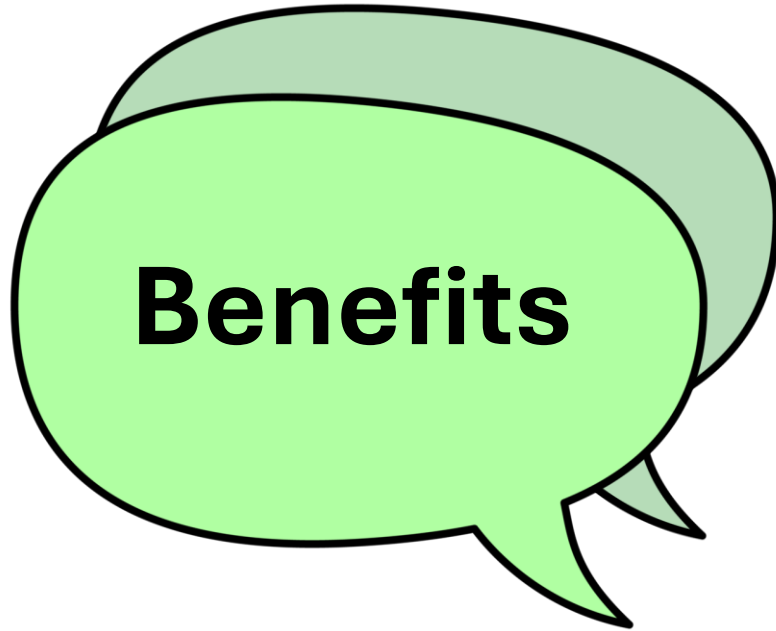


# Reflections (2): staff

## Challenges



# Reflections (1): student



- Resource management experience
- Networking experience
- Enhanced understanding of a HE institution



# Reflections (2): student



- Time management
- Budget management
- Stress organising an event

# Reflections (3): student

‘Handicrafts of South Asia, was an incredible phase of my time at university. In some ways, the concept of working at a library was always one of those fanciful childhood dreams but after this internship, I decided to become much more involved with the library landscape in the UK. From memberships to seeking out resources to just enjoying the environment they provide, it has been incredible to see the amount of support that libraries can give to a community just by existing.’

*Statement from Hiba Khan – Student Curator 2025*



# What's next?

- Plan to run the internship again
- Looking into opportunities for undergraduate students
- Continue to highlight and raise awareness for EDI
- Use UX to learn from each project and lead with student voice





# Thank you for listening!

## Any questions?

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