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Building MultiStories: A Framework to Diversify the Curriculum in Higher Education

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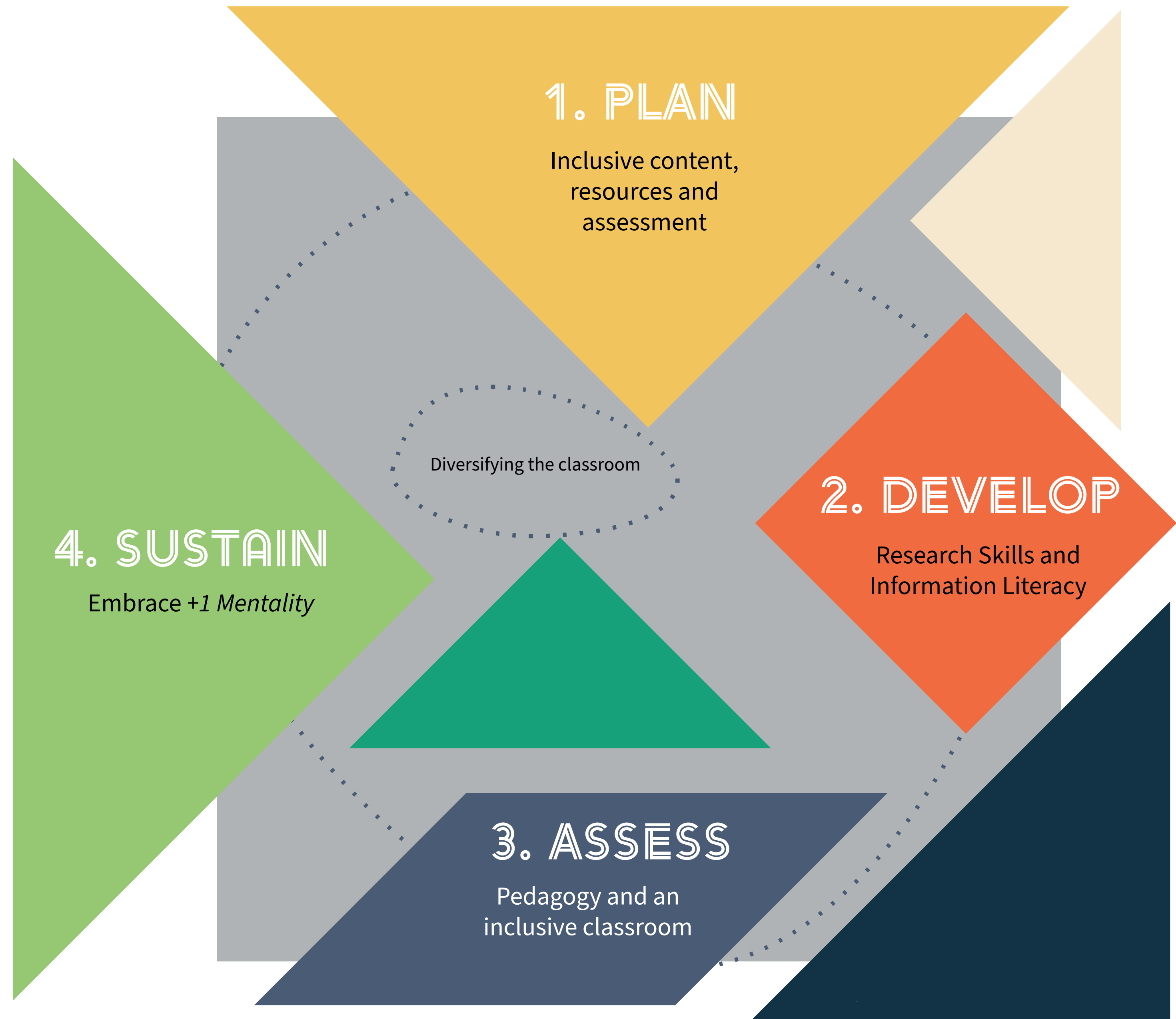
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BUILDING MULTISTORIES

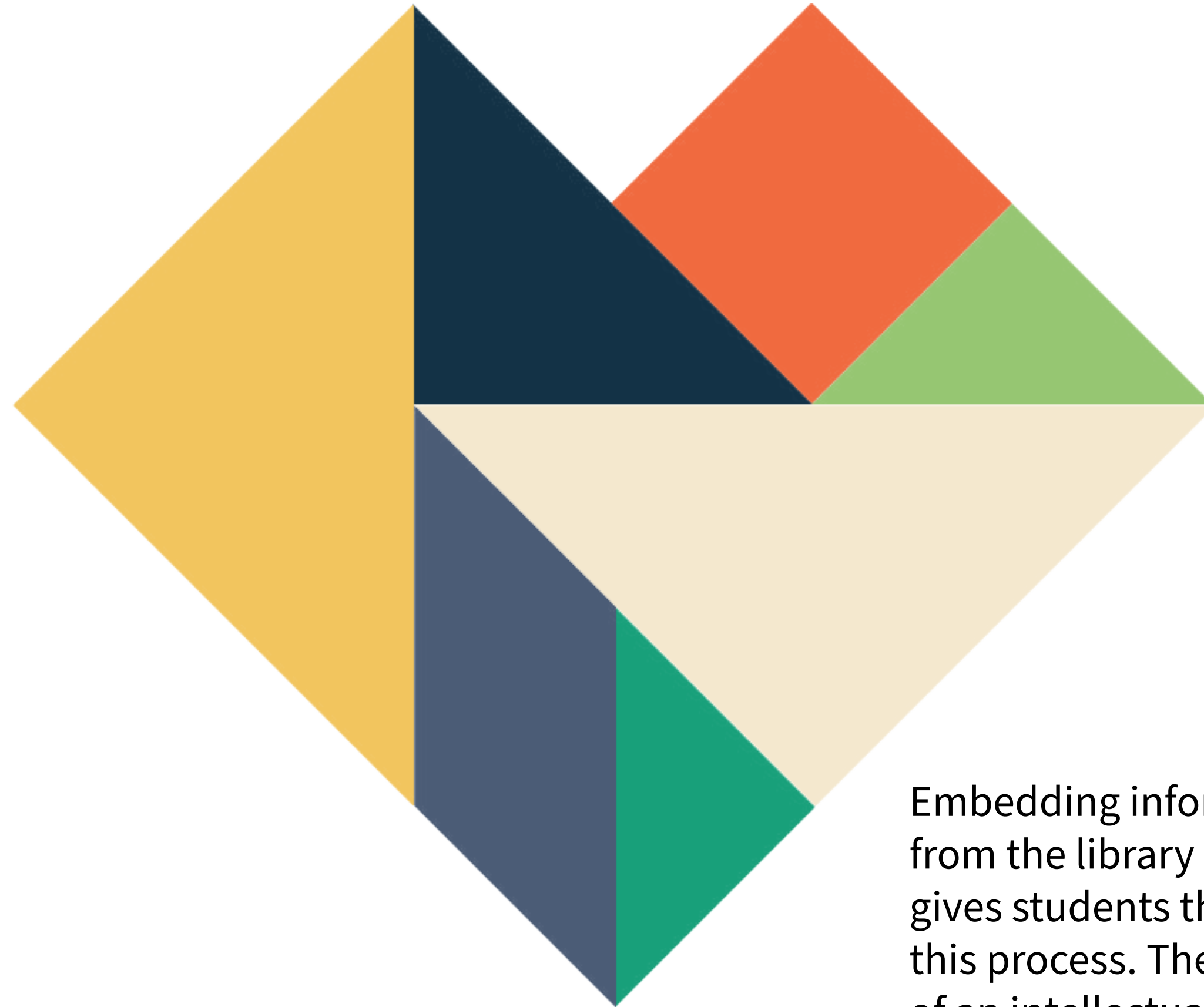
A Framework to Diversify
the Curriculum in Higher
Education



Making an IMPACT
Teaching and Learning for Student Success

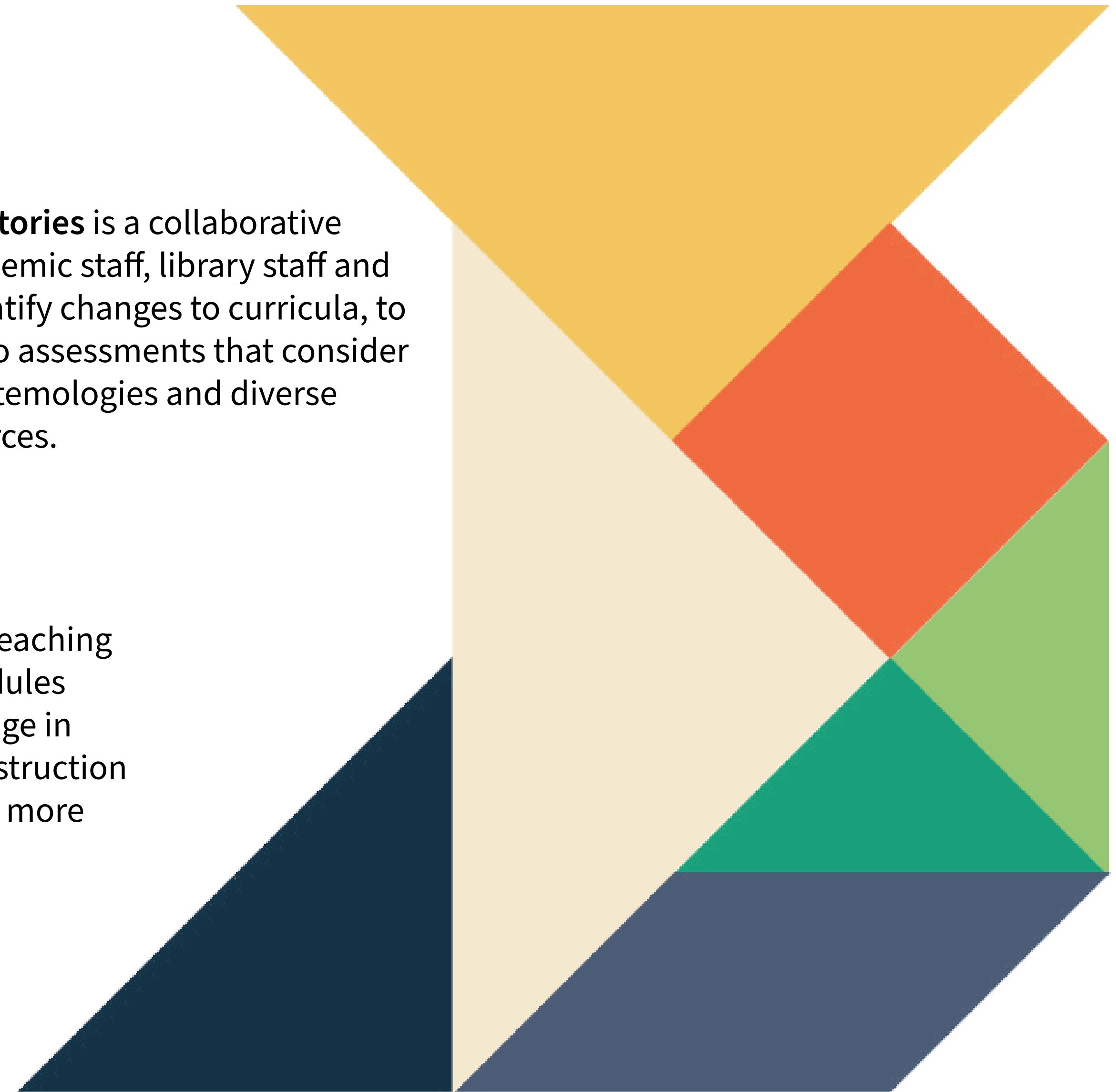


ABOUT



Building MultiStories is a collaborative process by academic staff, library staff and students to identify changes to curricula, to resources and to assessments that consider alternative epistemologies and diverse knowledge sources.

Embedding information literacy teaching from the library services into modules gives students the skillset to engage in this process. The result is the construction of an intellectually expansive and more pedagogically sound curriculum.



Led by staff and/
or co-created by
students

1. PLAN

Inclusive content,
resources and
assessment

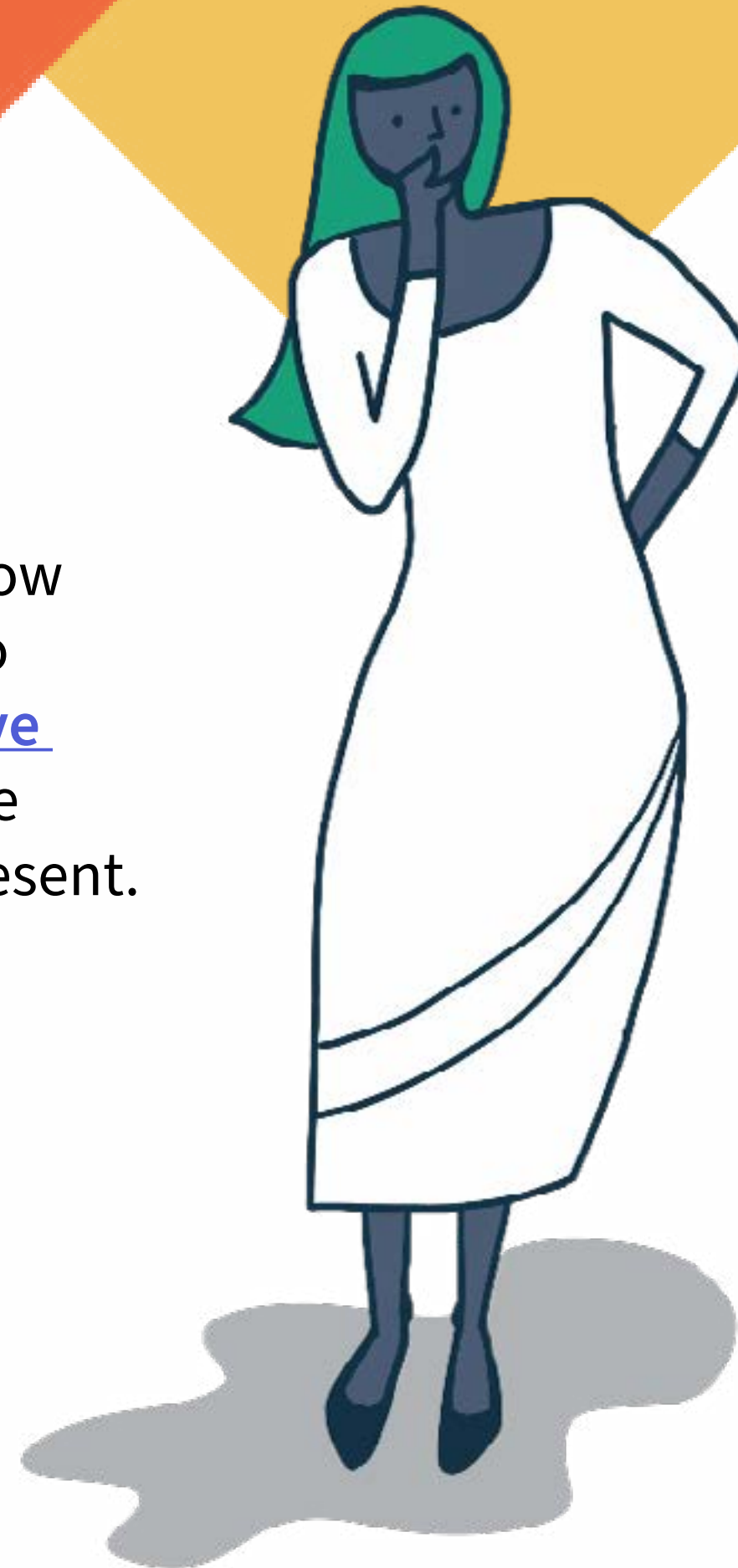


Include a diversifying curriculum statement, stating that your module is in a process of becoming increasingly informed and reflective of more inclusive content that represents a diverse student population.

Consider a Diversity Curriculum Diagnosis (DCD), by assessing how much diversity is included in a module/programme in relation to content, assessment and classroom environment. [UCL's Inclusive Curriculum Healthcheck](#) is a good starting point. A DCD could be adopted as an assessment type for students to complete and present.



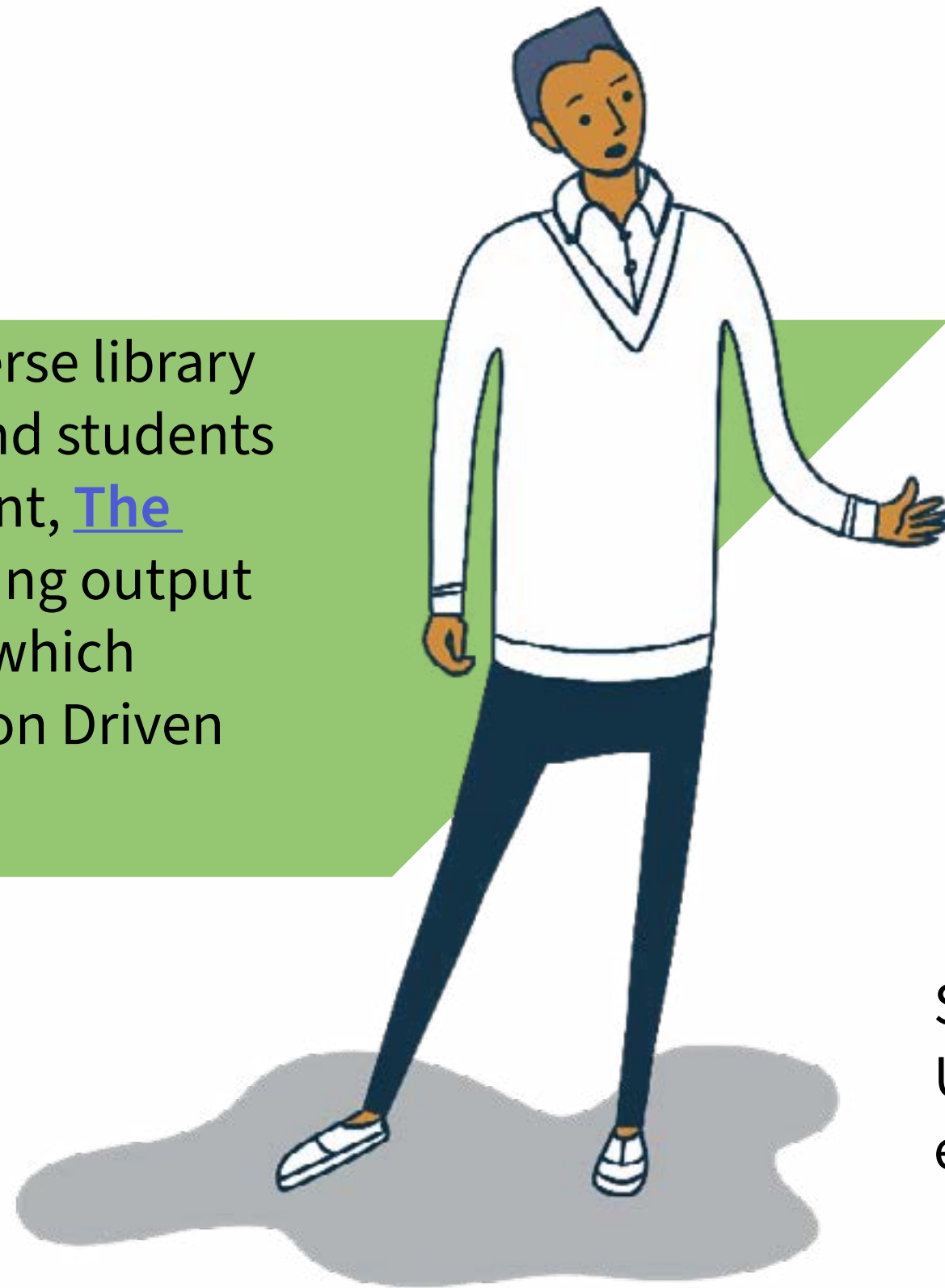
Evaluate to what extent diversity has worked its way into the curriculum from content to assessment. All disciplines have the capacity to include, social, cultural and ethnic diversity within their modules.



Student-centered and staff-facilitated

Develop and assess the research skills and information literacy of staff and students to find, consider and utilise diverse resources by embedding skills-based training from the library services into the formal curriculum.

Establish, develop and sustain a diverse library collection as a way to engage staff and students with both the concept and the content, [The Discover Diversity Collection](#) is a living output of the Building MultiStories project, which will continue to grow through a Patron Driven Acquisition Model.



2. DEVELOP

Research Skills and Information Literacy



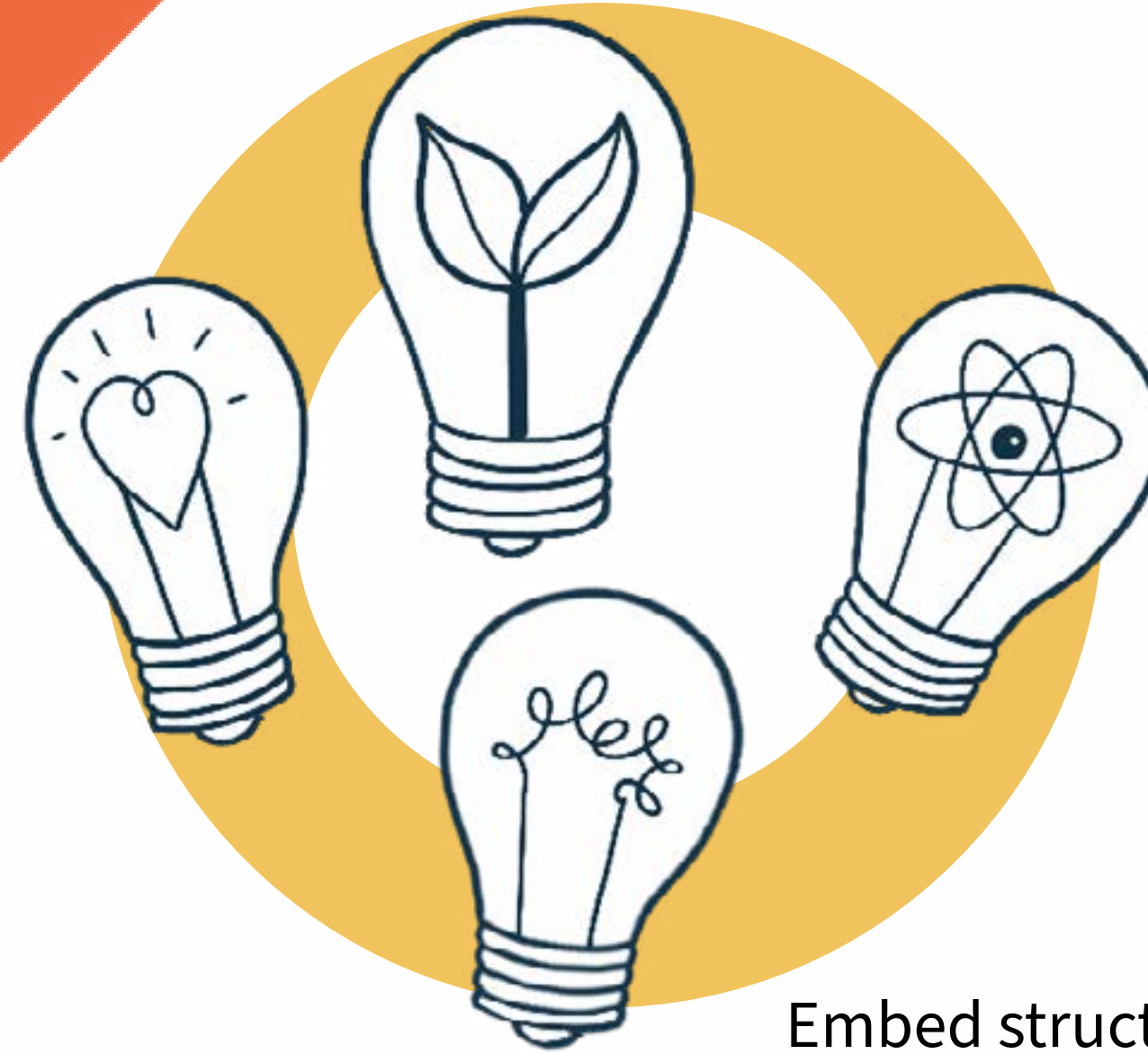
See the [Liberate Our Library](#) initiative at Goldsmith's College, University of London (Goldsmith's College, 2021) as another example.

Staff and student collaboration

Include [content](#), ideas, analogies, examples, stories and imagery that is culturally accessible and pedagogically robust.

Emphasise contributions from multiple theoretical perspectives and communities within the curriculum.

Create a classroom environment for authentic dialogue and learning from difference.



Ensure diversity of guest speakers in your classes.

Connect learning to societal issues. For example, use the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#) as context.

Embed structured opportunities through assessment for inclusive learning whereby students work with peers from a diverse background.

3. ASSESS

Pedagogy and an inclusive classroom



Sustain diversity
in the curriculum
championed by staff



4. SUSTAIN

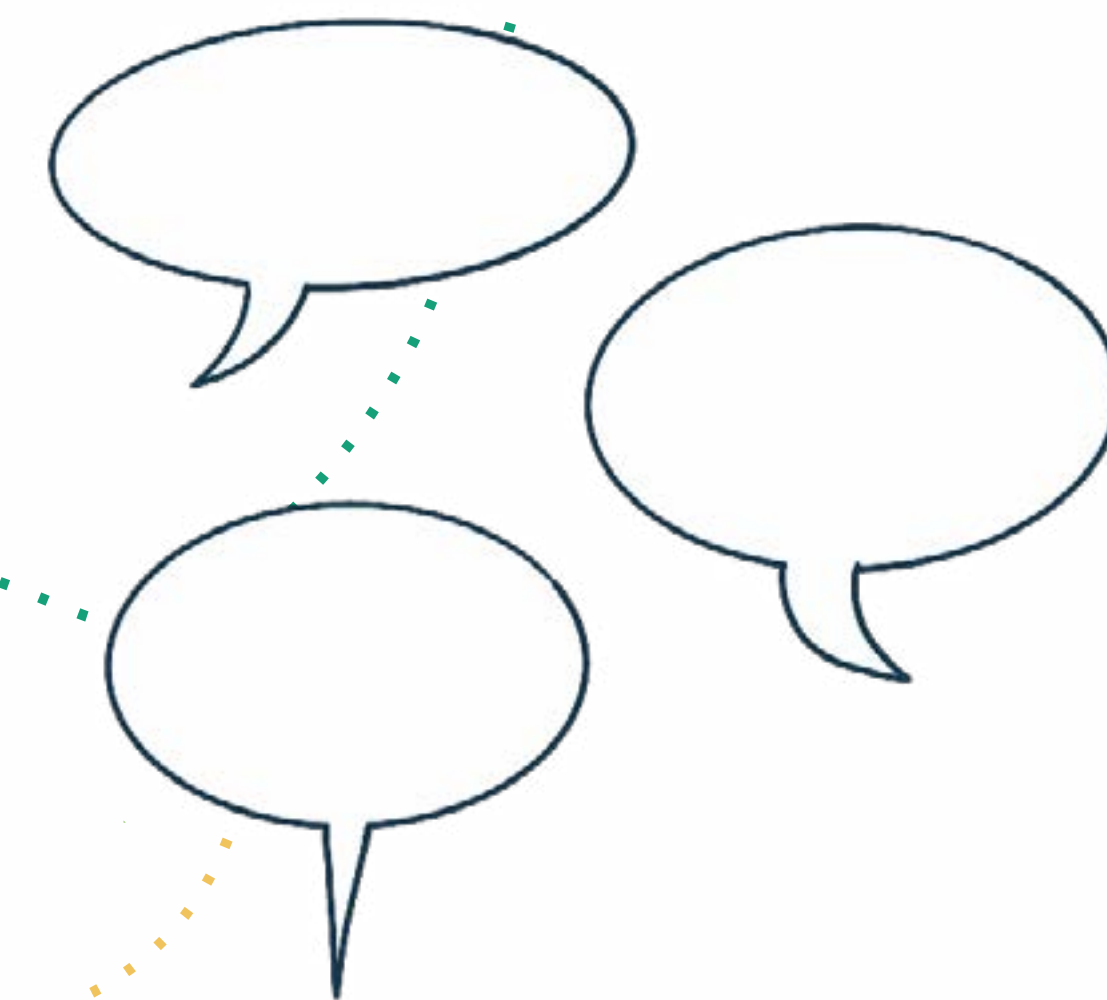
Embrace a *+1 Mentality*.

Embrace a *+1 Mentality* by committing to changing one thing every time you deliver your module, by using the steps in this framework as a guide.



Become an early adopter of diversifying the curriculum in your discipline:
Mentor colleagues within your discipline or outside your discipline after your experience of adopting this framework.

Share your learnings with the Teaching and Learning community.



Getting Started...



Watch:
Dr. Katherine Haxton,
ViCEPHEC21, [Chemistry For
All: Global, Diverse, and Fit
for Purpose.](#)

Listen:
The [Black and Irish
Podcast](#)

Read:
Darby, Fionnuala and
Dowling, Lindsay
(2021) 'Building
MultiStories:
Embedding the
library services for
inclusive teaching and
learning in a diverse
curriculum.' Irish
Journal of Academic
Practice: Vol X, Issue X,
Article X

Let's continue
Building
MultiStories in
Higher Education



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