



## **Lugamurthie Athiemoolam**

**Title:** Using an object medley to frame my identity as a lecturer embracing inclusivity and equality to enhance my students' well-being

In this paper I focus on the use of object inquiry to frame my identity as a lecturer who strives to create an inclusive learning environment in which the students' funds of knowledge are valued and respected. The object medley comprising a glass bottle of an African rural village maiden from which a hydroponic plant ascends, a dream catcher from Native American Indian culture, a Burmese teak tea-light holder and a multi-coloured lanyard, that frames the objects into a coherent whole, represent my engagement with diversity in all its manifestations and nuances. I am drawn to these objects because they frame my philosophy of life as an academic who embraces multiple perspectives of reality through my interest in diverse cultures, drama and languages. In reflecting on my role as a lecturer embracing diversity, as represented by the objects, I strive to create an inclusive learning environment for my students which aim to draw their cultural experiences into the learning space. The interconnected objects represent a metaphor for my own engagement with diversity and like a rhizome they spread outwards.

## **Key words**

Self-reflexive research, object inquiry, lecturer identity, inclusivity