

THE AWARDS 2021

Outstanding Library Team

Institution name	University of Essex
Submission title or project name	Innovation and personalisation in the face of the pandemic
Nominee/key personnel	
URL	
Submission	<p>When Covid struck in March 2021, university libraries around the world had to focus on moving services online, but the team at the University of Essex went a step further, taking a collaborative user-centred approach.</p> <p>Personalisation and innovation transformed the way the library supports teaching, learning and research, ensuring students, academics and researchers continued to have access to key resources.</p> <p>Collaboration with academic departments to ensure reading list resources were available online has resulted in new approaches to teaching and a Talis Advisory Board Strategic Initiative award.</p> <p>New initiatives included writing support programmes for PhD students described as “transformative for the postgraduate research community” as well as research and analysis support for Master’s students. There were unprecedented levels of take-up for dissertation support, which was moved online within weeks, and one-to-one student support sessions meant Essex students could get personalised support from wherever they were in the world.</p>