Technician [Research Group]

COLLEGE OF XX
SCHOOL/INSTITUTE XX

GRADE 6

Job Purpose

To manage technical aspects of the research on behalf of the Principal Investigator [PI], including providing specialist technical expertise in the relevant discipline and being responsible for the creation/set up and/or operation of all technical resources to aid the delivery of research objectives. In addition, the postholder will undertake a range of technical support activities in line with the College/Institute/School Strategy.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

1. Undertake specialist technical aspects of the specified research as a member of the research group.

2. Provide specialist technical advice to research team including research, teaching and technical staff and undergraduate and post-graduate/PhD students. Where required, support the supervision of students within the research group.

3. Progress technical aspects of research objectives in accordance with pre-determined timescales as set out by the PI.

4. Independently generate ideas and implement agreed proposals for experimental strategies.

5. Design and create experiments, systems, protocols, equipment, and/or other technical resources to support the delivery of research objectives.

6. Keep up to date with developments in relevant research/technical areas and within the broader discipline to ensure contribution to research goals is optimised.

7. Be responsible for the management of technical aspects of the research project, including where relevant, management of the laboratory, technical resources, and technical staff. Ensure operational delivery of technical resources is optimised and seek to continuously improve the technical service.

8. Be responsible for troubleshooting complex technical problems, including issues with the design and operation of technical resources and/or with the data which is generated.

9. Undertake complex data analysis, identifying trends, problems or anomalies, and present findings clearly to research group and/or to wider audiences via presentations or within appropriate research publications.

10. Where relevant, take day to day control of research budget, creating spending plans, monitoring outgoings and targets and providing summary reports to PIs as required.

11. Be responsible for the day to day management of and compliance with relevant Health and Safety and/or other specialist legal requirements. Maintain all necessary records in accordance with set requirements, keep up to date with developments or legal changes relevant to the work of the research group and advise and train group members as appropriate. Report any potential issues to the PI and/or relevant internal or external bodies timeously.

12. Work collaboratively with others, including within the wider College/Institute/School and where relevant with external contacts, to enhance the delivery of the research aims and support the broader strategic aims of the University.

Qualifications

- Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework level 8 [Scottish Vocational Qualification level 4, Higher National Diploma] or equivalent, and experience of personal development in a similar role.

- Significant breath or depth of technical knowledge and recognised as an expert in the relevant discipline.

- Up to date knowledge of relevant legislative requirements applicable to the role, including by not limited to Health and Safety.

- Degree or equivalent in relevant discipline desirable. Working towards Professional Registration with relevant body.

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- Demonstrable specialist technical skills aligned to the specified discipline or research project. Details of the discipline/project are as described in the post-specific information and advert.

- Significant IT skills, including proficient user of relevant specialist or bespoke software packages.

- Significant analytical and problem-solving capability, including high degree of accuracy and attention to detail when dealing with complex data

- Proven interpersonal and communication skills, including the ability to understand, conceptualise and interpret technical requirements of a research group and adapt own style to meet the needs of others

- Excellent teamworking skills and where relevant to the post, supervisory or line management skills.

- Ability to plan and prioritise a broad range of technical work to meet competing demands.

- Significant relevant work experience within a similar research environment, including evidence of previous outputs and professional development.

- Experience of understanding and interpreting complex technical requirements of service users and implementing appropriate methods of achieving their needs.

- Experience of managing budgets, including approving spends and monitoring outgoings on behalf of others.

- Experience of operating independently in progressing and delivering research goals within set timescales.