



<b>Job title</b>	Senior Technical Specialist	<b>Job family and level</b>	Technical Services Level 4
<b>School/ Department</b>	School of Life Sciences	<b>Location</b>	Medical School, QMC

## Purpose of role

To work within a team of specialists to deliver imaging services to support researchers in the School of Life Sciences and across the University. This includes expertise in histology, widefield and confocal laser scanning microscopy. The role holder will assist users of the School of Life Sciences Imaging facility (SLIM) in obtaining high quality digital images for publication purposes and contribute to the technological development of imaging systems. Responsibilities also include general upkeep of specific areas, supporting the administration, maintenance, operation and training of equipment across the SLIM facility.

	<b>Main responsibilities</b> (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	<b>% time per year</b>
1	<p><b>Technical specialist training – light microscopy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To manage the delivery of training for all users, internal and external across all aspects high-end wide field (WF) and confocal systems.</li> <li>▪ To support SLIM specialists on complex imaging projects and applications for research needs.</li> <li>▪ Monitor and manage instruments to ensure that all are correctly calibrated and operational at all times.</li> <li>▪ Ensure that all users understand the correct operation and image acquisition processes of the microscopes, as well as proper data storage techniques and workflows, resulting in high-quality, accurate data production and analysis.</li> <li>▪ To prepare and support the delivery of presentations on microscopy techniques for student courses/seminars at the university.</li> </ul>	50%
2	<p><b>Technical expertise</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To work within the SLIM team to provide technical expertise, support, and advice on all aspects of work undertaken for specific equipment and techniques within a defined lab area, including cryostats, wax sectioning, tissue processors, light microscopes, and associated software packages.</li> </ul>	20%

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To provide day to day technical support to undergraduate students and postgraduate researchers across technologies and techniques.</li> </ul>	
3	<p><b>Technical specialist support – Histology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To deliver support using specialist skills and knowledge of histology methods including sample processing, tissue clearing, cutting sections and staining.</li> <li>▪ To ensure clear communications with users for sample requirements.</li> <li>▪ To use technical expertise to ensure slides contain precise, intact and correctly stained samples.</li> <li>▪ To troubleshoot samples and processing issues, referring to colleagues for support as required. Interpret results and deliver findings back to the team and users.</li> <li>▪ To advise and assist users on all aspects of technical support services.</li> </ul>	15%
4	<p><b>Lab management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To work with the SLIM team to oversee the daily operations of the microscopy labs, ensuring a safe and efficient working environment for all users.</li> <li>▪ To monitor booking systems for SLIM equipment.</li> <li>▪ To generate bills for users of facility, as required.</li> </ul>	10%
5	<p><b>Health and Safety</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To ensure that the SLIM laboratories comply with work related legal and health and safety standards, monitoring and maintain records as required.</li> <li>▪ Develop and implement standard operating procedures (SOPs) for equipment usage and maintenance, ensuring compliance with health and safety regulations.</li> </ul>	5%

## Person specification

	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
<b>Skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Proven technical and/or experimental expertise in light microscopy</li> <li>▪ Proven analytical and technical problem-solving skills</li> <li>▪ Excellent oral and written communication skills, to enable the identification and understanding of customer requirements</li> <li>▪ Ability to adopt a methodical approach to prioritising work in order to achieve deadlines</li> <li>▪ Excellent customer relation skills</li> <li>▪ Ability to build effective working relationships and collaborate with others both internally and externally</li> <li>▪ Ability to work as an effective team member, with good communication skills and flexibility</li> <li>▪ Proven ability to work accurately and provide quality technical support with ability to work effectively under pressure</li> <li>▪ Ability to plan and organise work activities with delivery to deadlines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪</li> </ul>
<b>Knowledge and experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Proven technical and/or experimental expertise in sample preparation for light microscopy</li> <li>▪ Evidence of a wide range of knowledge using microscopes</li> <li>▪ Evidence of a broad range of staining experience</li> <li>▪ Evidence of providing training to different levels of customers</li> <li>▪ Evidence of knowledge and experience in the use of high-end wide field (WF) and confocal systems.</li> <li>▪ In depth skills and knowledge of histology methods to provide technical expertise and advice across work undertaken for specific equipment and techniques including cryostats, wax sectioning, tissue processors, tissue clearing and associated software packages.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ability to understand, conceptualise and interpret the technical and/or experimental requirements of staff and students</li> <li>▪ Evidence of previous experience in data analysis</li> <li>▪ Knowledge of types of image analysis</li> </ul>

<p><b>Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum HNC or equivalent, plus substantial work experience in a relevant role</li> <li>or</li> <li>Proven track record with extensive work experience in a relevant technical or scientific role.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Additional qualifications in laboratory skills e.g., health and safety.</li> <li>▪ Additional qualifications biological sciences or related field</li> <li>▪ RSci/ IEng or equivalent</li> </ul>
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As part of this, we welcome a diverse population to join our work force and therefore encourage applicants from all communities, particularly those whose protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010, are not well-represented in our current staff body.

## Expectations and behaviours

The University has developed a clear set of core expectations and behaviours that our people should be demonstrating in their work, and as ambassadors of the University's strategy, vision and values. The following are essential to the role:

- Valuing people** Is friendly, engaging and receptive, putting others at ease. Actively listens to others and goes out of way to ensure people feel valued, developed and supported.
- Taking ownership** Is clear on what needs to be done encouraging others to take ownership. Takes action when required, being mindful of important aspects such as Health & Safety, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion, and other considerations.
- Forward thinking** Drives the development, sharing and implementation of new ideas and improvements to support strategic objectives. Engages others in the improvement process.
- Professional pride** Is professional in approach and style, setting an example to others; strives to demonstrate excellence through development of self, others and effective working practices.
- Always inclusive** Builds effective working relationships, recognising and including the contribution of others; promotes inclusion and inclusive practices within own work area.

## Key relationships with others

This is a Smart Art diagram. Click on the boxes to enter the role holder's job title, line manager's job title and any direct reports (if applicable). If a role does not have any direct reports, remove this box by double clicking on it and pressing Delete.

**\*\*Please remove this paragraph of instructions before submitting the role profile\*\***



