



Job title	Senior Technician	Job family and level	Technical Services Level 3
School/ Department	Life Sciences	Location	University Park

Purpose of role

The purpose of this role is to provide specialist technical support in the areas of fungal biology, genetics and evolutionary biology to the research groups of Professor Paul Dyer and Dr Jasmine Ono. Specifically, the role is to support the principal investigators and postdoctoral staff in research investigating gene flow and the sexual biology of the opportunistic pathogens *Aspergillus fumigatus* and *Candida albicans* in a Wellcome Trust funded collaborative project. The post holder will be expected to undertake independent research as well as working as part of a team, with work to include laboratory experimental research, record keeping and safety monitoring.

The role requires knowledge and understanding of microbiology, specifically regarding filamentous fungi and yeasts, and experience of microbial culture and molecular genetic approaches.

The role holder will have the opportunity to use their initiative and creativity to identify areas for research, develop research methods and extend their research portfolio.

	Main responsibilities (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	% time per year
1	Research Support To work alongside the principal investigators and postdoctoral staff in planning and conducting experimental laboratory research and generating data using recognised approaches, methodologies and techniques within the research area and support the development of research objectives and proposals for own and/or collaborative research areas. Includes planning and managing own research activity and resolving problems, if required, in meeting own/team research objectives and deadlines in collaboration with others. To involve work aspects such as specialist media making, microbial culture of <i>Aspergillus</i> and <i>Candida</i> species, and application of molecular genetic techniques.	75%
2	Record Keeping Record keeping e.g. of experimental work and strain culture collections. Maintenance and updating of existing databases, SOPs and risk assessments for techniques undertaken in the laboratory.	5%
3	Laboratory Management	5%

	Support the laboratory manager in the day-to-day technical running of the laboratory, allocating resources and ensuring stock levels. To include liaising with the UoN finance team as required, and to plan and arrange shipments, ensuring that all regulations and paperwork regarding the shipment of biological material are met. Support the servicing, maintenance and repair of equipment used by the research groups.	
4	Health and Safety Monitor health and safety by assessing risks of planned activities and tasks to ensure the safety of yourself and others. Ensure students and new researchers are trained in techniques and the safe and effective use of equipment to ensure compliance with relevant health and safety regulations.	5
5	Data Analysis To assist in the interpretation of results for research publications, inclusion in group team meetings.	5%
6	Communication To build internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding, forming relationships for future collaborations.	2.5%
7	Laboratory Support To support researchers, students and other technicians within the laboratory providing quality and timely advice. This may include guidance and support to junior colleagues/students through on the job training/coaching in own area in the use of equipment and techniques.	2.5%

	Desirable
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In-depth experience of culture of both filamentous fungi and yeasts. ▪ Bioinformatic skills. ▪ Proficiency with Apple Mac computing. ▪ Experience of fungal protoplasting and gene transformation including CRISPR. ▪ Understanding of COSHH and risk assessment. ▪ Budgetary management skills and understanding of financial management procedures.
Knowledge and experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Experience of developing new approaches, models, techniques or methods in research area. ▪ Application of biochemical and antifungal assays. ▪ Evidence of publication record or papers in preparation.
Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSc or Masters in Biology, Microbiology, Genetics or related subject.
Statutory, legal or special requirements	



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



