



Chief Technical Officer
Research Infrastructure Unit
Permanent Contract

Dublin City University

Dublin City University (DCU) is a young, ambitious and vibrant university, with a mission 'to transform lives and societies through education, research, innovation and engagement'. Known as Ireland's 'University of Enterprise', DCU is a values-based institution, committed to the delivery of impact for the public good. DCU was named Sunday Times Irish University of the Year 2021.

DCU is based on three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra region of north Dublin. More than 18,000 students are enrolled across five faculties – Science and Health, DCU Business School, Computing and Engineering, Humanities and Social Sciences and DCU Institute of Education.

DCU is committed to excellence across all its activities. This is demonstrated by its world-class research initiatives, its cutting-edge approach to teaching and learning, its focus on delivering a transformative student experience, and its positive social and economic impact. The university continues to develop innovative programmes in collaboration with industry, such as the DCU Futures suite of degrees, which are designed to equip graduates with the skills and knowledge required in a rapidly evolving economy.

DCU's pursuit of excellence has led to its current ranking among the top 2% of universities globally. It is also one of the world's Top Young Universities (QS Top 100 Under 50, Times Higher Top 150 Under 100). In the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings 2021, DCU ranked 23rd in the world for its approach to widening participation in higher education and its ongoing commitment to eradicating poverty, while it ranks 38th globally for its work in reducing inequality and 89th globally for gender equality.

The university is ranked 23rd in the world and first in Ireland for its graduate employment rate, according to the 2020 QS Graduate Employability Rankings. Over the past decade, DCU has been the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer, as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

Overview of the Research Infrastructure Unit (RIU)

Research & Innovation Support (RIS) is made up of 4 units whose goal is to support the research community in DCU through Research Development, Research Support, Research Project Administration and Research Infrastructure.

DCU's Research Infrastructure is made up of core facilities, equipment, services and expertise that are used by relevant research communities to conduct research and advance innovation. The equipment is managed independently of research projects and is supported by a technical team who strive to maintain these resources to the highest standards, thus ensuring researchers are provided with top quality, verifiable results. There are a range of ways to access the equipment within the Research Infrastructure unit, which is intended to be a resource for individuals and teams from academia, industry and public services.

Role Profile

The Research Infrastructure Unit is seeking to recruit an experienced and motivated Chief Technical Officer (CTO). Reporting to the Research Infrastructure Manager and working closely with the RIU support team, the CTO will focus on the management of workloads, training needs and professional development of the RIU technical team. The role will also include the management of space within the NRF and NICB buildings, facility services (compressors, chillers, specialist gas supplies etc), access protocols and equipment maintenance.

Principle Duties and Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the position include, but are not restricted to, the following:

- Line managing the technical staff and providing leadership in ensuring the smooth running of the technical support in the RIU.
- Assist the Research Infrastructure Manager with forward planning of and enabling changes in the use of space under the remit of the RIU.
- Monitoring Health & Safety compliance and liaising with the Biological and General Safety officer to carry out lab safety audits.
- Assist the Research Infrastructure Manager with governance, budgeting, policy and training requirements within the Unit.
- Liaise with and establish strong lines of communication with Estates Office, Health and Safety Office and colleagues in other faculties.
- Lead on infrastructural projects within the NRF and NICB buildings.
- Responsible for the day-to-day running of the NRF and NICB buildings (compressors, chillers, air handling, specialist and standard gas supplies, etc.).
- Ensuring the routine maintenance, validation and calibration of research and ancillary equipment is maintained.
- Assist the Research Infrastructure Manager with oversight of tenders for research equipment.
- Promote access and teaching for undergraduate students to specialist instrumentation.
- Working with faculties and RIS, implement energy saving and sustainability measures.
- Work to best practices and use new technology/software for lab management and quality processes.
- Other tasks as allocated by the Research Infrastructure Manager.

Qualifications and Experience

Essential Criteria

Masters in a relevant discipline or equivalent professional experience as a Senior Technical Officer. At least three years experience in the role of Senior Technical Officer in a higher education institution or similar role and experience in the private/public sectors.

Candidates will have:

- A proven track record of effective facility, technical services and space management.
- Excellent interpersonal skills & communication skills both written and verbal, including negotiation skills.
- An ability to work effectively - unsupervised, individually, as part of or leading a team.
- Proven strong focus on Health and Safety, and compliance.
- Proven record of managing change and implementation of new technology.
- Experience with IT tools relevant to various aspects of the role.
- Technical expertise which aligns with the activities within the NRF and NICB buildings (e.g. chemistry, physics, biotechnology, engineering).
- Experience of management of facilities, services and space within a research-intensive environment.
- Previous experience in guiding a diverse team.

Essential Training

The post holder will be required to undertake the following mandatory compliance training: Orientation, Health and Safety and Intellectual Property and Data Protection training. Other training may need to be undertaken when required.

Dublin City University is an equal opportunities employer.

In line with the Employment Equality Acts 1998 – 2015, the University is committed to equality of treatment for all those who engage with its recruitment, selection and appointment processes.

The University's Athena SWAN Bronze Award signifies the University's commitment to promoting gender equality and addressing any gender pay gaps. Information on a range of university policies aimed at creating a supportive and flexible work environment are available in the [DCU Policy Starter Packs](#)