



JOB DESCRIPTION

Technical Officer School of Health and Human Performance 11 Month Fixed Term Contract

Dublin City University

Dublin City University www.DCU.ie 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 and Transformation', it is committed to the development of talent, and the discovery and translation of knowledge that advances society and the economy. DCU is the Sunday Times Irish University of the Year 2021.

The University is based on three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra region of north Dublin. It currently has more than 18,000 students 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 creating a transformative student experience, and its positive social and economic impact. This exceptional commitment on the part of its staff and students has led to DCU's ranking among the top 2% of universities globally. It also consistently features in the world's Top 100 Young Universities (currently in QS Top 70 Under 50, Times Higher Top 150 Under 100).

DCU is placed 84th in the world, in the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings – measuring higher education institutions' contributions towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Over the past decade, DCU has also been the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer, as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

Overview of the department

A dynamic and rapidly growing School within the Faculty of Science and Health, the School of Health and Human Performance at DCU is developing an international reputation in health, sport and exercise science and physical education. As such, the School of Health and Human Performance is committed to researching, understanding and disseminating knowledge about exercise and physical activity across the continuum from health to elite sport performance, and to the area of musculoskeletal medicine. The mission of the School is to foster optimum wellness in all phases of the human life cycle through the provision of academic programmes, research and the translation of research into public health or high performance strategies with practical implementation. It aims to achieve this through:

- Pioneering undergraduate and graduate level academic programmes;
- Undertaking research that transcends traditional boundaries leading to enhancement of health, physical performance and quality of life of the citizens of Ireland and beyond;
- Developing a wide range of community-based sport, health-related and injury research programmes;

- Building on our national reputation for excellence for sports performance, preventive medicine, health and physical literacy, and healthy aging across the life course.

The School has already received significant support from the University through the appointment of a range of key academic and support staff and the development of extensive facilities for exercise and sport. As a member of this school you will become part of this multi-disciplinary team. Faculty and postgraduate research students in the School of Health and Human Performance investigate a wide range of topics concerning human movement and education, athletic performance, musculoskeletal medicine and health promotion. The School has a thriving research environment and the candidate must have the ability and desire to achieve excellence in their chosen area.

The School runs the following programmes:

1. BSc in Sports Science and Health www.dcu.ie/courses/undergraduate/shhp/sport-science-and-health
2. BSc in Athletic Therapy and Training www.dcu.ie/courses/undergraduate/shhp/athletic-therapy-and-training
3. BSc in Physical Education with Biology www.dcu.ie/courses/undergraduate/shhp/physical-education-biology
4. BSc in Physical Education with Mathematics www.dcu.ie/courses/undergraduate/shhp/physical-education-mathematics
5. Professional Doctorate in Elite Performance (Sport)
<https://www.dcu.ie/courses/Postgraduate/shhp/Professional-Doctorate-Elite-Performance-Sport.shtml>

The School attracts high calibre students who are offered undergraduate teaching, research opportunities and practical placements in industry, in education or in clinical settings according to programme. At the heart of development plans for the University, the School is in unique position for significant growth with the establishment and development of a new dedicated Health and Human Performance facility planned on campus at DCU.

Role Profile

The technical officer will provide technical support in the SHHP focusing on two main areas. Firstly, providing technical support to practical and laboratory classes across the Athletic Therapy and Physical Education under graduate programs. Appropriate training will be provided by DCU as needed in athletic therapy, physical education and sport science related areas, should the successful candidate need it. The second area involves providing expertise and support for digital teaching and learning across school, including our two new distance learning graduate programmes; the Professional Doctorate in Elite Performance, and the MSc in Elite Sports Performance. This will include assisting the development, setting up and management of information and education technology across our programmes, and supporting School of Health and Human Performance staff in the same, with a view to allowing for maximizing the impact of our online and blended learning offerings.

Duties and Responsibilities

Reporting to the Head of School or nominee, the duties and responsibilities attaching to the post include, but are not restricted to, the following:

- Assist the CTO/TO team in supervising laboratory and practical work and processes undertaken by staff, researchers and students as required in the School. Ensure best practice by supervising undergraduate/postgraduate students during project work when academic staff are unavailable.
- Provide technical support and assistance for movement, sports performance, and sport technique practical laboratory work.

- Demonstrate practical techniques, processes, and operation of equipment and software in both PE and clinical laboratories to staff, students and visitors for timetabled taught practical sessions and for research activities and projects.
- Assist the CTO/TO team in ensuring School practical, clinical, and laboratory equipment is functioning effectively and safely. Prepare and implement maintenance schedules to meet statutory and university requirements.
- Assist the CTO/TO team in monitoring compliance with health and safety rules and regulations
- Take responsibility for ensuring reliable, secure and consistent service delivery of day-to-day educational and IT technology, maintaining key technological platforms and infrastructure, and liaising with Information System Services at DCU as required.
- Take technical lead on developing and implementing an educational technology and IT strategy for HHP, to support objectives outlined in the University Strategy related to an enhanced student learning experience and innovation in teaching, including that related to on-line deliver and technology.
- Take technical lead on specific educational technology and IT projects related to undergraduate student support and teaching enhancement at a School level.
- Work closely with suppliers and external partners to ensure a full comprehension of the solution specifications related to the enhanced delivery of IT services within the School. This involves ensuring deliverables are fit for purpose and meet expectations, and are implementable with their support.
- Mentor, coach and train School staff and students on platforms and projects related to use of digital tools in programme development and delivery.

Qualifications and Experience

Essential criteria

- Honours degree (NFQ level 8) in engineering, computer science, information technology or related area
- A keen interest in the area of human movement, exercise science and related fields.
- Relevant expertise and experience in education and information technology roles in an education environment.
- Excellent Interactive verbal and written communication skills with experience of working, collaborating and establishing credibility and relationship at all levels, and an ability to translate technical language to common language for non-technical users.

A background/documented experience and interest in athletic therapy and training, physical education or sport science, would be a distinct advantage.

Mandatory Training

The postholder will be required to undertake the following mandatory compliance training: Orientation, Health & Safety and Data Protection (GDPR). Other training may need to be undertaken when required.