Technician Commitment Working Group

Terms of Reference

Background

The University of Kent recognises the importance of Technicians and Technical Staff across all areas of the organisation and the vital part they play in delivering the very best student experience, education, internationally recognised research and innovation, and supporting the community as part of the University's civic mission.

Through the national Technician Commitment programme, the University has pledged to support the visibility, recognition, career development, sustainability and impact of all technicians.

Purpose of the group

The Technician Commitment Working Group will jointly oversee, along with the Technical Services Management/Leadership Group, the implementation of the Technician Commitment strategy and action plan. The Technical Manager (Technician Commitment) will provide strategic insight and lead the delivery of the Technician Commitment strategy and action plan, supported by and in collaboration with the Head of Technical Services. Progress will be reported to the Technician Commitment Executive Group Sponsor for dissemination to the wider Executive Group.

Functions of the group

- Oversee and provide directional guidance on Kent's Technician Commitment Strategy and Action Plan and its implementation across the University
- Monitor progress and provide guidance in the delivery of the Technician Commitment, including progress against targets and objectives.
- To develop and support technical leads across the institution to deliver against targets and objectives
- Act as ambassadors for embedding Technician Commitment across Kent's schools, directorates and realm of wider influence
- Ensure that any opportunities are identified relevant to the context of the organisation and incorporated into strategic decision making.

Meetings

Meetings will be held 3 monthly and be chaired by the Technical Manager (Technician Commitment). Meetings will have actions recorded and an action list produced for all the members following each meeting.

Membership:

Chair
Joanna Scamp, Technical Manager (Technician Commitment)

Executive Group Sponsor
Professor David Wilkinson, Pro Vice Chancellor (Health & Strategic Partnerships), Director of Parkinson's Centre for Integrated Therapy (PCIT) Professor of Psychology

Institutional Champion
Dr Daniel Knox, Assistant Director of IT Services (Infrastructure & Cyber Security)

Technical Services
Phil Marsh, Head of Technical Services

Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity
Minna Janhonen, EDI Adviser

Human Resources
Natasha Warwick, People Partner

Business Development, Research and Innovation Services
Emily Barton, Research Coordinator

Technician Commitment Champions
Visibility Champion – Rebecca Cloake, Open Research Officer (Library Services)
Recognition Champion – Joshua Lithgow, Media Technician (Technical Services)
Career Development Champion – Peter Verrall, Technical Specialist in Electronics/Facilities (Technical Services)
Sustainability Champion – Tim Keward, DaaS Manager, IT Asset Lifecycle (IT Services)

Reporting structure

The Technician Commitment Working Group will provide a report to the Executive Group Sponsor annually and on an ad hoc basis when required.