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Role Description

Job Title:	Digital Research Technical Champion
Campus/Location:	All campuses
Responsible to:	Jeremy Cohen, Advanced Research Fellow, Department of Computing
Contract type:	Graduate Teaching Assistant, Tier 3

Purpose of the Post

The Digital Research Champion will raise awareness of best practices in research software, data management, and computing infrastructure within their department. They will support the development of FAIR, sustainable and robust digital research outputs and foster a community of peers engaged in improving digital research practices.

Key Responsibilities

- Understand the challenges of research software development, data management, and computing infrastructure within their faculty or department.
- Raise awareness of the importance of good digital practices in modern research.
- Promote the use of good practices in software, data, and infrastructure management and the benefits these practices offer.
- Deliver core skills to support the use of improved digital practices.
- Engage with colleagues through e.g. surveys, coffee hours, clinic sessions, training workshops, and showcases.

Person Specification

Requirements Champions will be expected to demonstrate the following:	Essential (E)/ Desirable (D)
Experience	
Experience in research involving software development, data management, or computing infrastructure	D
Previous involvement in community or collaborative activities	D
Knowledge	
Basic understanding of software development, data management, or computing infrastructure practices in your discipline	E
Skills & Abilities	
Ability to communicate effectively with a diverse range of colleagues.	E
Strong networking skills within the faculty or department.	E
Ability to commit time to engagement and collaboration activities.	E
Flexibility in undertaking work and managing time effectively.	E
Personal Attributes	
Enthusiasm for supporting a community of peers and learning new skills.	E
Self-motivated and proactive.	E
Strong interpersonal skills.	E
Passionate about improving digital practices and supporting peers.	E

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For more information, contact Jeremy Cohen, Advanced Research Fellow, Department of Computing, jeremy.cohen@imperial.ac.uk or Isabella von Holstein, STEP-UP project community manager, i.von-holstein@imperial.ac.uk.

Please note that job descriptions cannot be exhaustive, and the post-holder may be required to undertake other duties, which are broadly in line with the above key responsibilities.

Imperial College is committed to equality of opportunity and to eliminating discrimination. All employees are expected to follow the Imperial Values & Behaviours framework. Our values are:

- Respect
- Collaboration
- Excellence
- Integrity
- Innovation

Employees are also required to comply with all College policies and regulations paying special attention to: Confidentiality, Conflict of Interest, Data Protection, Equal Opportunities, Financial Regulations, Health and Safety, Information Technology, Smoking, Private Engagements and Register of Interests. They must also undertake specific training and assume responsibility for safety relevant to specific roles, as set out on the College Website Health and Safety Structure and Responsibilities page.

As this post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, a satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, at the appropriate level, will be required for the successful candidate. Further information about the DBS disclosure process can be found at: http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/agencies-public-bodies/dbs/ or by telephoning 03000 200 190. You may also wish to view the College's DBS webpage for policy statements on the Recruitment and Employment of Ex-Offenders and the Secure Storage, Use, Retention & Disposal of Disclosures and Disclosure Information.

The College is a proud signatory to the San-Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA), which means that in hiring and promotion decisions, we evaluate applicants on the quality of their work, not the journal impact factor where it is published. For more information, see https://www.imperial.ac.uk/research-and-innovation/about-imperial-research/research-evaluation/

The College believes that the use of animals in research is vital to improve human and animal health and welfare. Animals may only be used in research programmes which are ultimately aimed towards finding new treatments and making scientific and medical advances, and where there are no satisfactory or reasonably practical alternatives to their use. Imperial is committed to ensuring that, in cases where this research is deemed essential, all animals in the College's care are treated with full respect, and that all staff involved with this work show due consideration at every level. Find out more about animal research at Imperial.

We are committed to equality of opportunity, to eliminating discrimination and to creating an inclusive working environment for all. We therefore encourage candidates to apply irrespective of age, disability, marriage or civil partnership status, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion and belief, gender identity, sex, or sexual orientation. We are an Athena SWAN Silver Award winner, a Disability Confident Leader and a Stonewall Diversity Champion.

[8 May 2025]