



Biotechnology and
Biological Sciences
Research Council

Supporting and Engaging Technicians at BBSRC

Aidan Grimsley
BBSRC Skills and Careers Unit

Eligibility for Funds

Technicians can submit a grant proposal as a PI or Co-I to BBSRC, provided:

- their appointment is resourced from the central funds of their institution at the time of application
- they carry both a level of responsibility and range of duties appropriate to a person with substantial research experience

If the technician is not eligible to be PI or Co-I, but they made a significant contribution to the grant design and writing, they should be named as a Researcher Co-I to reflect this.

Career Mobility Opportunities

Flexible Talent Mobility Accounts (FTMAs):

Funding to enable technicians and other research staff to undertake a placement or secondment working outside of their usual environment.

These act as a training platform for the individual and increase porosity between sectors.



FTMA Examples

Exchange of animal technicians between the Babraham Institute and Charles River Laboratories resulting in exchange of methods and individuals reporting “enhanced professional visibility and improved awareness of career opportunities”

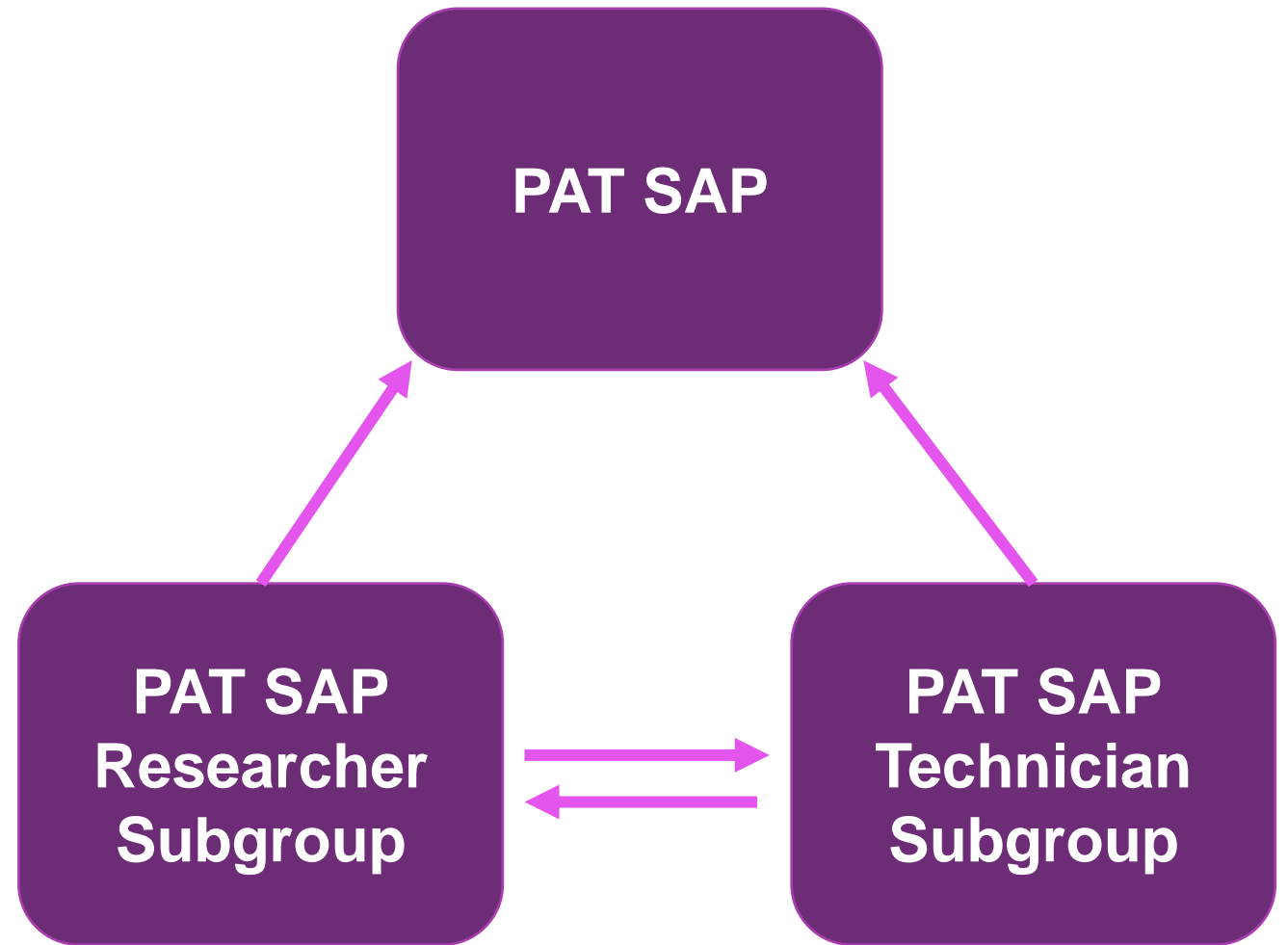
Technicians from Earlham Institute working alongside EyeFilm to develop training videos on the operation of equipment within the EI.



Informing BBSRC Strategy

We are working to establish
a People and Talent
Strategy Advisory Panel
Technician Subgroup
(PAT SAP TS)

Expecting to launch a call
for members next year



PAT SAP Technician Subgroup Remit

- professional development of technicians
- our Technician Commitment Action Plan
- engagement with the technician community
- equality, diversity and inclusion, along with widening access to technician career opportunities



Survey

To understand how organisations receiving BBSRC funding support the career development and recognition of bioscience technicians (and researchers).

The survey is aimed at learning and development specialists, rather than the technicians themselves, with the aim to identify commonalities and good practice in:

- Skills development
- Career options
- Recognition and reward
- Governance



Survey

This could help us identify and share best practice across the sector and inform BBSRC policy, for example guidance on completing and assessing the “staff training potential” section of grant applications.

The survey should take around **15 minutes** (longer if you want to supply examples of best practice).

If you are interested in taking part please email:

aidan.grimsley@bbsrc.ukri.org

or find me during a networking opportunity



... and more

- Our strategically funded research institutes must now supply a research culture statement as part of the Institute Assessment Exercise
- Working towards capturing data on technicians costed on our grants (through the upcoming new Funding Service)
- Publishing case studies on technicians and research teams



Biotechnology and
Biological Sciences
Research Council

Thank you



BBSRC



@BBSRC



BBSRCmedia



Biotechnology and
Biological Sciences
Research Council

Questions?

