WHAT IS THE TECHNICAL CONFERENCE AND SKILLS FUND?

Technical staff often have limited access to funds facilitating conference attendance and skills training courses. We are creating a new Technical Conference and Skills Fund to ensure technical colleagues can competitively apply to attend appropriate conference and courses.

The purpose of these could be to:
- Develop their technical skills
- Disseminate their own activities
- Develop networks in their area of expertise.

Over the course of the 4-year TALENT project, we will aim to fund 150 applications.

In return for the funding, a short report about the conference and your learning outcomes is required.

CASE STUDY

What have you learned from the conference?
I attended the 63rd Annual Meeting of Society into Research of Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida (SRHSB). I have gained knowledge on the latest laboratory research techniques and the latest clinical research.

How has the conference helped you to develop your skills/career?
The opportunity to network, present and discuss our research has resulted in future external collaboration.

What impact do you think the conference/course has had on you?
This conference has had a significant impact on my career development, enhancing my research and teaching skills by delivering presentations to an international audience.

"This conference has had a significant impact on my career development"
Waheed Ashraf,
Senior Research Technician,
School of Medicine,
University of Nottingham

THE TALENT PROJECT

TALENT is a Research England-funded project which leads and influences change to advance status and careers of technicians in UK Higher Education. Over 4 years the project will:
- Build an understanding of the future requirements for skilled technicians in the UK HE sector through a national policy commission.
- Work collaboratively to advocate and deliver a change in culture that will raise the profile of technical careers, roles and contributions, enhancing career pathways and possibilities.
- Deliver a programme of training and development opportunities for the Midlands Innovation technical community of over 2100 FTE and share the learning with the sector.
- Advocate and develop opportunities for technicians in the HE sector, ensuring technical careers are supported, developed, respected and ultimately aspired to.

HOW TO APPLY

The Technical Conference and Skills Fund is open to technicians from the 8 Midlands Innovation universities. Upon completion of the conference, successful applicants are expected to submit a short report.

Please complete our Technical Conference and Skills Fund form to submit information about the conference and its benefits to your career development.

For any queries please contact MITalent@midlandsinnovation.org.uk

Timeline
There will be an open call for applications each quarter. You can keep updated with the latest information on timelines on our website.

Funding
Funding covers travel, subsistence and accommodation to attend the conference. Funds to cover additional caring costs incurred by participation in the programme are also available. TALENT will book all travel, accommodation and conference registration on your behalf. Subsistence costs will be reimbursed to you from TALENT.
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