UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Research Role Profile

Job Title:	Research Assistant (1B)

Responsible to:	Head of research group, or principal investigator

Responsible for:	There is no direct supervisory responsibility

Job Summary and Purpose:

To support research activity in accordance with specified research project(s) under the supervision of the principal investigator

Main Responsibilities/Activities

To support a research team by contributing to the development of the research project and undertaking prescribed research tasks in accordance with specified research project, making use of specific research techniques and methods. These will include laboratory experimentation, computer-based data analysis and library research as directed by the research award holder and will entail co-ordinating own work. Analysing and interpreting results of own research, under the guidance of research award holder or supervisor. Write up results and may contribute to the preparation of paper(s) for submission to appropriate journals and conferences, and other outputs as required and/or appropriate. Attend appropriate conferences for the purpose of disseminating research results of personal development.

To carry out routine administrative tasks associated with a specified research project, for example risk assessment of research tasks, organisation of project meetings and documentation. This will entail planning own day-to-day research activity within the framework of the agreed programme, dealing with problems that may affect the achievement of research objectives and deadlines and implementing procedures required to ensure accurate and timely formal reporting and financial control.

Research Role Profile

Person Specification

The post holder must have:

A first degree or a professional qualification or equivalent in a relevant subject (biomechanics, mechanical or biomedical engineering, physics or other related disciplines).

At least part-completed a relevant doctoral degree or have relevant experience in a given field.

The post holder will be expected to be able to support research activities by performing experiments and analysing/ interpreting results.

Relationships and Contacts

Direct responsibility to the principal investigator or academic supervisor.

Special Requirements

To be available to participate in fieldwork as required by the specified research project.

All staff are expected to:

- Positively support equality of opportunity and equity of treatment to colleagues and students in accordance with the University of Surrey Equal Opportunities policy.

- Help maintain a safe working environment by:

    - Attending training in Health and Safety requirements as necessary, both on appointment and as changes in duties and techniques demand

    - Following local codes of safe working practices and the University of Surrey Health and Safety Policy

- Undertake such other duties within the scope of the post as may be requested by your Manager.

Research Role Profile

ADDENDUM

Job Title:	
	Research Assistant

Main Responsibilities/Activities
The appointed person will carry out dogs recruitment, will responsible for selecting and registering the dogs as per University regulations, will create appointments to receive the participants at UoS facilities, will prepare equipment and participants and help them to habituate to the laboratory environment, will collect data and carry out data quality control before the dog's departure. The candidate will manage and analyse the data resulting from synchronised foot pressure platform, motion capture system and inertial sensors according to the project requirements, including reporting and sending processed data to the funder periodically. The data resulting from the accelerometer-based collar latter will not be analysed by the candidate.   The post holder will be expected to be responsible for recruitment, data collection, data back-up and analysis; to prepare periodic reports of the results for the funder and supervisor; and to contribute to journal peer-reviewed publication(s) resulting from the research project.

Research Role Profile

Person Specification

In addition to the criteria outlined in the accompanying generic Research Assistant Role Profile, the post holder should have (E = Essential; D = Desirable):

- At least part-completed a relevant doctoral degree or have relevant experience in a given field. (E)
- Knowledge in software and hardware used in Biomechanic analyses: motion capture systems, foot pressure analysis, preferably Qualisys Track Manager and Visual-3D. E
- Background in animal handling and/or research. E
- Knowledge in programming, preferably Matlab. D
- Knowledge in advanced statistical methods and experience with large amount of data. D
- A PhD degree. D

Background Information

The project will consist in collecting and analysing kinetic, kinematic and inertial motion units (accelerometer-based) data from dogs presented for lameness; dogs will be simultaneously wearing an accelerometer-based collar for lameness assessment and all hardware will be synchronised. The data resulting from the accelerometer-based collar latter will not be analysed by the candidate.