

THE AWARDS 2021

Outstanding Technician of the Year

Institution name	Paul Rowley, <i>Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine</i>
Submission title or project name	
Nominee/key personnel	
URL	https://www.lstmed.ac.uk/the-herpetarium
Submission	<p>Paul Rowley is a research technician based in the Centre for Snakebite Research and Interventions (CSRI) at LSTM.</p> <p>He has a UK-unique role – maintaining a research collection of over 150 venomous snakes, including performing venom extractions to provide critical research samples for UK and international snakebite research projects.</p> <p>These resources underpin the development of new therapeutics sorely needed to combat this World Health Organization-listed Neglected Tropical Disease. While Paul’s job is inherently dangerous, his practice is informed by extensive knowledge and experience, and he frequently applies innovative design and development of new working practices to mitigate the risk of interactions with dangerous animals, while simultaneously promoting their welfare via improvements to husbandry.</p> <p>Paul coordinates productively with other members of CSRI and has provided extensive mentorship and training to a junior assistant and to staff based in a new facility in Kenya, representing an outstanding exemplar of north-south capacity strengthening.</p>