



Name:
George

Job title:
Research Governance Manager

What do I do:
I make sure that the research taking place at the Wellcome Sanger Institute is ethical

My career highlights



What do I enjoy most about my job?

I enjoy how varied it is, with every day posing new challenges and opportunities, but most of all I enjoy being able to say I help make a difference.

What was my favourite subject at school?

Having to say no is one of the most challenging things parts of the role. There are times in my role where I have to tell researchers that samples they want to use cannot be used for what they have in mind. Its often best to provide a solution rather than a problem, a different way forward.

Skills I use in my job :



Problem Solving

Providing advice and support to researchers on how best to obtain the samples they need for their work



Teamwork

Sharing workload amongst the team to enable balance and provide the best support we can to researchers



Communication

Writing an application for ethical approval in a way that communicates exactly what researchers want to do in plain English



Analytical

Analysing changes in the law in order to assess how it could impact internal policy

My top tips for students wanting a career in genomics:

- Do what you enjoy and you will find you are better at it and will find the time you need to practice.
- With the above in mind, occasionally put yourself out of your comfort zone and don't be afraid to try new things.
- Don't feel to have to be sure about your future, things have a way of working themselves out.

What's next in my career?

Building up my team and having more time to focus on policy and the changing regulatory environment



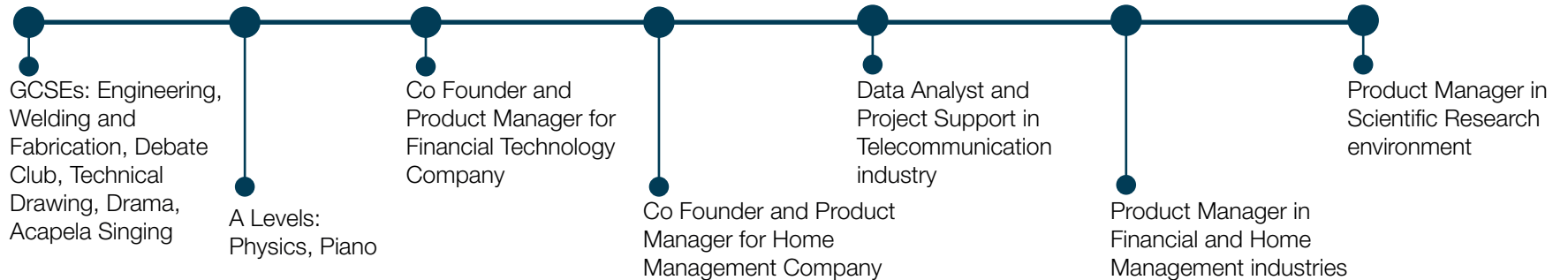


Name:
Joshua Matthew

Job title:
Product Manager

What do I do:
I work with software engineers and scientists to build the right software products to meet the needs of our users and help facilitate the scientific research at Wellcome Sanger Institute.

My career highlights



What do I enjoy most about my job?

Each software product is a solution to one or many real problems. I enjoy the fact that I am a key player in solving real problems that make scientific research easier.

What's next in my career?

I look forward to becoming a Product Leader to work on more complex software solutions while mentoring other Product Managers and enthusiasts.

Skills I use in my job :



Creativity

I always explore creative ways to inspire creativity during team activities, such as brainstorming ways to improve our software products



Teamwork

I work with many people within my team at Sanger including those who belong to different teams



Communication

Communicate effectively and clearly with users of our softwares, who are mostly scientists, and with the engineers that build them



Problem solving

Identify problems being faced by our users, understand them, and propose possible solutions

My top tips for students wanting a career in genomics:

- Be open-minded. Not everyone in genomics is a scientist, but everyone here contributes value to furthering scientific research.
- Your career path will not always be clearly defined, you can be anything!

What hobbies do I have?

Talking on my podcast shows about data topics and product management. As well as going to the gym, and playing the piano.

Search 'Joshiverse' on YouTube and Spotify to find my videos and podcasts.



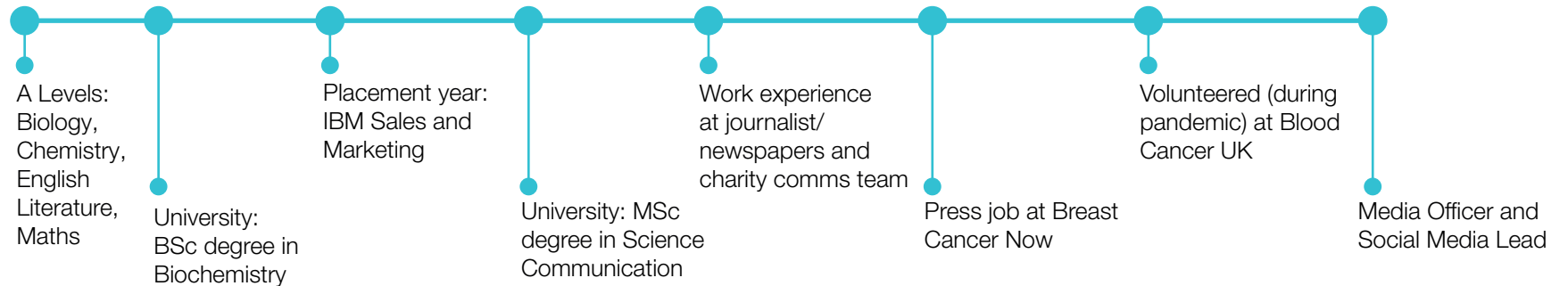


Name:
Rachael Smith

Job title:
Media Officer and Social Media Lead

What do I do:
I am responsible for all external communications about the Wellcome Sanger Institute, to raise the profile of Sanger and its science. This includes media relations, social media, and journalist visits.

My career highlights



What parts of my job are challenging?

Prioritising workload and managing internal and external pressures. Science moves slowly but the press moves quickly!

What was my favourite subject at school?

Favourite GCSE was history, as its analytical and creative. In history there are many possibilities and versions of a story, and you have to get creative to find out which one was true.

Skills I use in my job :



Creativity

Finding stories within research papers and finding new ways to explain old concepts



Problem Solving

Reprioritising when something changes, working to quick and tight deadlines with the press



Communication

My job requires lots of written and verbal communication to a variety of audiences



Listening

The best stories come from conversations, finding the right questions to draw out ideas

My top tips for students wanting a career in genomics:

- Consume lots of science communication to work out which bit you like and don't like
- Don't feel 'married' to one area of science communication or science as its so vast and varied, you can combine many areas
- My ADHD diagnosis helped me understand how I work and what type of jobs work for me
- Job I might do in 5 years might not exist now

What's next in my career?

I'm about to take a travel sabbatical for 5 months, going from Mexico to Australia with stops along the way. I'd then like to go into management, with my own team.





Name:
Steph

Job title:
Management Trainee

What do I do:
I rotate every 6 months into different operational teams, supporting the science at Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute. The teams I've experienced so far are Finance, Grants, Sequencing Operations and the Tree of Life Programme.

My career highlights



What do I enjoy most about my job?
I'm inspired by variation and challenge – two things that my scheme has provided by the bucket-load. For early careers managers, it's been a very supportive environment to learn on the job.

What parts of my job are challenging?
Most of my rotations have been in operational areas I was previously unfamiliar with, for example Finance. Getting up to speed with the lingo and requirements can be challenging but also very rewarding when you get it right.

Skills I use in my job :



Creativity

I plan series of exciting lab events for staff to learn about the different scientific technical skills used at the institute in a fun and engaging way.



Teamwork

I use my network across the institute to help drive process improvements, focusing on continuous improvement and efficient ways of working together



Communication

I coordinate with universities and research institutes to produce scientific publications about the genomes of species found in the UK.



Organisation

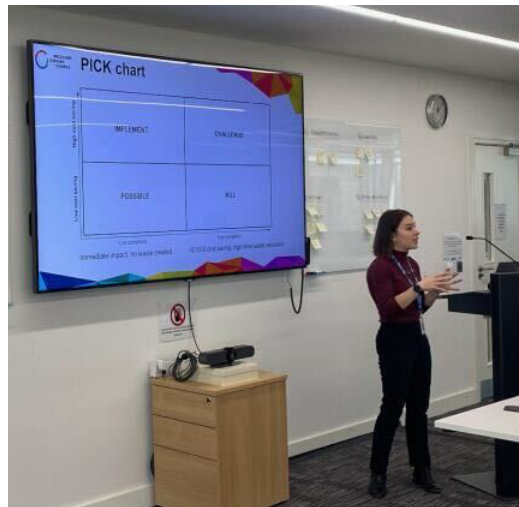
I oversee grant applications for scientific funding, making sure we submit requests with the right information and on time

My top tips for students wanting a career in genomics:

- I would encourage anyone to learn the basics of computer science (coding or programming) or methods for data visualisation and handling large datasets.
- Genomics is not just about the research, but what to do with the enormous amount of data generated!

What hobbies do I have?

You could find me playing competitive sport or spending an evening crafting things. I also love music and play guitar when I remember to!



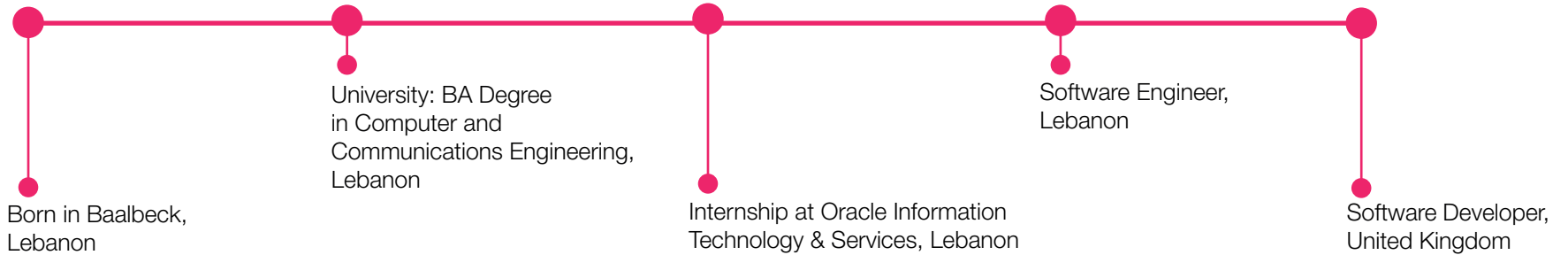


Name:
Tamara El Naboulsi

Job title:
Software Developer

What do I do:
I work on maintaining and updating the core Ensembl Applications as well as creating new pipelines for internal EBI users. I make coding and databases accessible for scientists.

My career highlights



What parts of my job are challenging?

Not being from a scientific background, starting out in genomics proved a bit challenging. But with the help of the people around me and by asking all the questions I had, I manage to overcome this every day.

What does a typical day/week look like in my role?

I start with planning out what tasks I need to get done, consulting with my direct manager about my ongoing projects. I then spend my time developing code from scratch, adding new features, or fixing existing code. All of this happens with some meetings sprinkled here and there.

Skills I use in my job :



Coding

My main language has been Perl, but I'm working more and more with Python these days



Teamwork

I work as part of a team of programmers and bioinformaticians, and we often collaborate on projects



Communication

My work requires me to ask questions of other teams or consult with bioinformaticians on biological concepts



Problem solving

To be able to maintain and create new code, problem solving is essential, especially when debugging

My top tips for students wanting a career in genomics:

- Make sure you're interested in the subject, as it makes understanding it easier.
- Remember that multiple career paths can lead you to the same end goal.

What hobbies do I have?

I love reading fantasy and sci-fi, cooking, playing video games, and crafting. A perfect afternoon for me is cuddling with my pets and enjoying one of my hobbies.

