Policies for TACMASR Confocal microscope (effective June 1, 2020)

We are a community of researchers. This means that we not only look out for our lab mates, but for everyone in the Wildcat family. Please comply with these policies in the spirit of caring for the health and wellbeing of others. Unfortunately, we need to act as if everyone else (including you) on campus might be an asymptomatic carrier of the virus. Until we have a vaccine, we will likely have some variation of policies like these.

**DO NOT COME TO WORK IF YOU ARE SICK** - Please follow the UA guidance regarding monitoring your wellness. Do not come to work if you are sick or symptomatic. If you have been exposed to someone diagnosed with COVID-19, please follow the CDC guidelines for self-quarantine. The UA is providing a digital environment, AZCOVIDTXT, that allows employees to perform a digital wellness check and voluntarily report symptoms. We encourage you to sign up for AZCOVIDTXT at: [https://azcovidtxt.org/](https://azcovidtxt.org/)

For additional information on the virus see the main UA COVID-19 page for more information: [https://www.arizona.edu/coronavirus-covid-19-information](https://www.arizona.edu/coronavirus-covid-19-information)

**YOUR LAB MUST HAVE APPROVAL TO USE THE CORE** - Only trained users from labs that have a completed a COVID-19 Checklist for Resuming/Commencing Research and have been approved by their Department Chair and/or their College’s Associate Dean of Research are allowed to use the facility. This is a new UA requirement, effective June 1, 2020. See: [https://research.arizona.edu/covid19/research-restart](https://research.arizona.edu/covid19/research-restart)

**ALWAYS WEAR A FACE COVERING** - Per the UA Arizona Direction and Guidance for Safe Return to the University Workplace, a face covering is required to be worn when on campus. We are extending this, such that you will be required to wear a face covering even if you are operating an instrument in a room by yourself.

**WASH HANDS BEFORE & AFTER** – Wash hands (or use hand sanitizer) before entering the lab and after you are done. The bathrooms in the basement of the UACC are located directly across the hallway from the microscope room. We will try to make hand sanitizer available, however it may take some time.

**SAFETY/PRESCRIPTION GLASSES ARE RECOMMENDED** - Because there is the potential for person-to-person transmission by the microscope eyepieces, we are highly recommending that all users wear either prescription eyeglasses or safety glasses when using the microscope eyepieces.

- Clear plastic safety glasses are relatively inexpensive. We recommend safety glasses that are shaped like regular eyeglasses, as the curved lenses of many types of safety glasses can make it more difficult to position your eyes for focusing the microscope and may introduce optical distortions. Example ($7.36 from Amazon): [https://www.amazon.com/Y50BKAFCSafety-Performance-Resistant-Comfortable/dp/B07253G22T/ref=sr_1_11](https://www.amazon.com/Y50BKAFCSafety-Performance-Resistant-Comfortable/dp/B07253G22T/ref=sr_1_11)

**ONLY ONE USER PER MICROSCOPE** – UACC room 0960 is 292 sq ft, with two microscopes. Please leave the dividing curtain in place at all times, as this protects the users of either microscope from each other. Because the official UA recommendation is 144 sq ft per person, we are requiring that users operate the confocal by themselves. If you need to consult with another person, you can initiate a Zoom meeting and share the microscope computer screen with the other person. You can initiate a meeting by going
You will need to use your phone for audio and video as the instruments do not have webcams.

**DISINFECTING THE WORK AREA IS EVERYONE’S RESPONSIBILITY** – There are kimwipes and a squirt bottle of 70% Ethanol available for disinfecting the area and places that people commonly touch. Each microscope has a short cell phone video available on the computer demonstrating what needs to be done. The area will be cleaned by Doug daily, but users are also expected to disinfect before and after their sessions.

**PLAN FOR A 15 MINUTE SCHEDULING GAP BETWEEN USERS** - We will be requiring a 15-minute gap between scheduled appointments to allow for the room air to exchange. That means that you need to schedule appropriate amounts of time for your research, including transferring data files, plus time for disinfecting, **AND** to allow for that 15-minute gap between users.

**TRAINING & SUPPORT WILL BE DONE CAUTIOUSLY** - Because the microscope room is not overly large (with the two instruments taking up quite a bit of that available space), training and technical support means that two people are in a smaller space that should (ideally) only have one person at a time. Keeping 6ft of linear distance will be a challenge, given how the room is configured.

- **TRAINING WILL BE DONE ONLY ONE USER AT A TIME** – Because of this, only one user can be trained at a time. We do not anticipate this changing any time in the foreseeable future.
- **ASSISTED USE BY ZOOM ONLY** – Will need to be done via a screen share using Zoom.
- **TECHNICAL SUPPORT DONE CAUTIOUSLY** – Doug Cromey is back on campus full-time effective June 1, 2020. Please help him stay healthy by wearing your face covering and keeping as much physical distance as the room configuration allows. In some cases, technical support might entail a Zoom session, as Doug has the ability (with the user’s permission) to remotely control the instrument.