



Center for Toxicology, Southwest Environmental Health Sciences Center (an NIEHS Center)

Experimental Pathology Service Core

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Confocal news:

- Leica Service installed the new acusto-optical tunable filter (AOTF) on the confocal microscope. This attachment allows users to independently adjust the intensity of the light (*excitation wavelengths*) from the laser at any given power setting of the laser power supply. For a brief training session, contact Doug Cromey.
- The Leica serviceman also complained that the lenses and the lens turret on the microscope were very oily. Users need to remember to use oil only on the 40X and 100X oil lenses, to use small amounts of immersion oil, and to gently clean the excess oil off the lenses with the lens paper provided (**NEVER with Kimwipes or Kleenex**). Contact Doug Cromey if you have any questions.
- Users will soon be able to schedule time on the confocal microscope using an on-line calendar. Users will be notified about the switch sometime in November and further instructions will be provided. For a preview of the scheduling system, see "Leica Confocal Microscope" at: <http://schedule.arl.arizona.edu>

Collaborating with the Core and acknowledging the SWEHSC:

- Need a letter of collaboration from the Core for a grant proposal? Contact us and we will provide you with one. If you need a one-page description of the resources available from the Core, contact Dr. Lantz or Doug Cromey and they will email the text to you.
- It is important for the continuation of our NIEHS funding that the support of the SWEHSC is acknowledged in grant proposals, publications and abstracts. Users of the CBA Histology lab, AZCC Cell & Molecular Pathology Core, ARL EM facility, ARL Leica confocal microscope, the ARL Codonics dye-sublimation printer and the ARL Flow Cytometry facility are being financially underwritten by funds from the SWEHSC Experimental Pathology Core budget. Please use the following acknowledgement: "This material is based upon work supported by NIEHS under award number ES06694".

Concerns about service lab turnaround times:

- EM facility turnaround times have been longer than usual due to high workload and a lengthy vacation by one of the two technical people in that lab. Things should begin to improve in November.
- The workload in the Histology lab has continued to increase. Currently it takes as much as a week for a large project involving paraffin embedding and sectioning to be completed. The level of staffing in the Histology lab is under evaluation and we hope to improve this situation in the next 6-12 months. Currently there are 1.4 FTEs in the Histology lab. Frank Walmsley has requested that clients with projects requiring frozen sectioning notify him at least 2 days in advance.
- Both the Histology and EM service labs are willing to work with investigators who are on short deadlines.
- FYI: Users of the Leica confocal microscope currently need to schedule time on the microscope at least a week in advance of when they will need the time. Please plan your experiments accordingly. Experienced confocal users may request access to the instrument in the evenings or on weekends.

Congratulations:

- Doug Cromey was recently promoted to Principal Research Specialist. Mr. Cromey is the Manager of the Experimental Pathology Service Core.
- The Core's WWW site has surpassed 36,000 web page requests for the year ending October 1, 1998. This is a 44% increase over the April 1, 1998 statistics. Over 95% of the site's visitors are from off-campus. Most of these users are taking advantage of the excellent collection of educational and technical microscopy links available at the site.