



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

Experimental Pathology Service Core

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http://www.pharmacy.arizona.edu/exp_path.html

RU Y2K Compliant?

- The recent announcement that the NSF is requiring year 2000 (Y2K) compliance from grant recipients has caused a bit of consternation. This isn't helped by the fact that some companies will not tell equipment owners if their equipment is compliant (*this policy is often based on the advice of legal counsel*). Help for computer users is on the way, the state of Arizona has recently signed a contract with Viasoft, Inc. to license the use of the company's software for workstation evaluation called **OnMark 2000 ASSESS**. For more help, please make sure to talk to the information technology people in your department. The following on-line resources may be of interest:

CCIT's Year 2000 page:	http://computing.arizona.edu/year2000.html
Microsoft's Year 2000 resource center:	http://www.microsoft.com/year2000/
Apple Computer's Year 2000 site:	http://www.apple.com/macOS/info/2000.html
TechWeb's Year 2000 site:	http://www.techweb.com/wire/technews/year2000.html

Ethics in Image Manipulation:

- A recent article in the May issue of Atlantic Monthly discussed the ethics of image manipulation in wildlife photography (*e.g., magazines like National Geographic*). The article is a bit long, but some of the issues raised are similar to those that scientists are looking at with digital imaging. The article can be found at: <http://www.theatlantic.com/issues/98may/photo.htm>

Confocal news:

- Ongoing communications problems between the two computers that run the Leica TCS-4D confocal microscope have led to the replacement of the OS-9 computer. Leica service personnel were here the second week of July to fix this problem which has caused the confocal to be very sluggish to respond to commands.
- The Biotechnology Imaging Facility has ordered an acousto-optical tuner (AOT) for the Leica. The AOT will allow users to have increased control over the intensity of the different laser lines. An example would be using FITC (*or similar dyes*) and CY-5; the laser power must be turned up fairly high to get the 647 nm laser line to excite the CY-5 dye, this can cause the 488 nm excitation line to be too bright. With the AOT, users would be able to reduce the intensity of the 488 nm line to better suit their experiment.

Histology Lab News:

- There's been a new face in the department of Cell Biology & Anatomy's Histology Service Lab the last few months. Nancy Machen, a long time UA employee, has been putting in 10-15 hours each week to help keep up with the histology lab's ever increasing workload. Nancy works for Dr. McCuskey with the rest of her "free time".

Well Known on the WWW:

- An average of over 90 requests for one of the Core's WWW pages come to the College of Pharmacy's WWW server each day (33,000 visits in FY 97-98).
- The "Microscopy & Imaging Resources on the WWW" portion of the site was recently added to the reference section of the NIEHS web site.
- The Core's WWW site was designed to be a reference source for Center Investigators. There's information on the Core (*on-line brochure*), as well as a number of pages providing educational and reference material about histology, use and mis-use of formaldehyde fixatives, confocal microscopy, electron microscopy and digital imaging.