

# OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY NEUROSCIENCE CORE

## CORE E (IMAGING): TERMS OF SERVICE

**Purpose:** To provide neuroscience researchers with well-managed and well-maintained confocal microscopes for imaging of cells, tissue and embryos in the living and fixed state, and to provide expert training, consultation and technical support for the use of this equipment.

**Initiation of projects:** The core is available to neuroscience researchers on campus. New users should contact the Core Director, Anthony Brown (brown.2302@osu.edu) to discuss their eligibility for training and access. If scheduling conflicts arise, the order of priority will be as follows: (1) NINDS-funded projects, (2) other funded neuroscience projects and neuroscience projects of Junior investigators (within 5 years of their appointment), and (3) PIs that are seeking to obtain preliminary data for an extramural neuroscience grant application.

**Services:** Training, oversight and day-to-day management is provided by Ms. Paula Monsma, who is supervised by the Core Director. We provide access to the Leica TCS SL inverted confocal microscope and Andor Revolution WD Spinning Disk confocal microscope, as well as hands-on one-on-one basic training to all new users, and application-specific advanced training to experienced users. First time users must attend a mandatory training seminar, mandatory one-on-one training sessions, and finally supervised use before being given access to the microscopes. After satisfactory completion of this training, users are given access Monday-Friday 9am-5pm. As users become more experienced, they are given access 24/7, at the discretion of Ms. Monsma. We also provide consultation and assistance in the development and execution of specific imaging projects, such as those involving live cell imaging in tissue slices, developing zebrafish embryos and cultured cells, and in the processing and analysis of acquired images. Use of the confocal microscopes can be scheduled in advance by using the Facility Online Manager calendar. Entry to the microscope rooms is controlled by keycard. Availability is on a first-come, first-served basis. A lab is permitted to book up to 12 hours each week on each instrument as far in advance as it wishes, but it may not book more than 12 hours in any single week (Sunday through Saturday) until Friday of the preceding week. Users of the Leica are not permitted to schedule more than 4 hours in one day without permission from Ms. Monsma, unless they are scheduling on the day of use. Any of these restrictions can be waived by Ms. Monsma, with appropriate justification. The Core also offers access to a Zeiss Axiophot upright wide-field epi-fluorescence microscope.

**User Responsibilities:** The Center Core grant P30 NS045758 must be acknowledged in each and every publication arising from work supported by the Core. The Core reserves the right to deny access to Users that do not adhere to Core policies or that fail to exercise sufficient care in the use of the microscopes.

**Costs:** The Core has adopted a modest hourly rate for use of either confocal microscope, which is tiered to reflect the cost to the Core in terms of staff time (Table 1). These fees are waived for Junior faculty (within 5 years of their initial appointment). There is no charge for training time, whether standard or advanced, and there is no charge for use of the wide-field epi-fluorescence microscope. Limited access is available for non-neuroscience projects at a rate of \$35/hour, at the discretion of the Imaging Core Director, subject to availability.

**Table 1. Fee structure for Imaging Core.**

Service	Fee
Training	No charge
Unassisted use	\$5/hour
Assisted use	\$10/hour
Non-neuroscience use (limited access; subject to availability)	\$35/hour