

Dear COBRE Histology and Imaging Core users,

We want to thank you all for bearing with us as we have been developing the capabilities of our new core facility. Many of you are taking advantage of our services; our feedback has been excellent. We would like to share a few policies and updates in response to the growing demands.

1. As our manager, Ms. Biagini will make all decisions related to performing work as well as scheduling training sessions for students and faculty.

2. We now oversee three cryostats, and they are being used very regularly. To assure proper care and very importantly, equitable use, we have established an online schedule. All users are required to use this schedule, as well as log their use in the book that will be at the cryostat. Access to this schedule requires training and/or clearance by Linda Biagini, our manager. If you have already completed training, please contact Linda ASAP to obtain clearance.

3. We should have our new Leica upright microscope with stereology and other quantification capabilities installed by early May. Depending on usage, this too will require scheduled access.

4. We have two microscopes with teaching heads, one upright and one stereoscope. Both have cameras. The stereoscope has a camera with unique capabilities, in that it can take images directly to a "SD card," or can be controlled by any computer with the installation of a simple program. It has video capabilities as well.

5. In addition to sectioning frozen samples, tissue can be processed on our processor and embedded in paraffin. We also have the capability to process samples in plastic and, prepare semi thin sections. All tissues may be stained with routine and special stains, immunohistochemistry or enzyme histochemistry.

Ms. Biagini offers consultation as to the best method for the intended results.

Thank you for your compliance with our new scheduling system. We look forward to serving you in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Bove
Linda Biagini