

Service Level Agreement for the Confocal Microscope Facility
School of Biological and Chemical Sciences
Queen Mary University of London

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Definition of service

The Confocal Microscope facility provides use of a Leica SP5-TCS confocal microscope. It uses an inverted microscope and is equipped with a number of lasers, including a 355 nm UV-laser. Several other laser lines are available for probe excitation between 355 nm and 633 nm. A steplessly tunable detector system can record any wavelength emitted from the sample and up to five channels may be recorded simultaneously. Two different scanners are available: a conventional scanner for flexible high-quality imaging and a resonant scanner able to scan at video-rate for applications such as calcium imaging in living tissue. Simultaneous DIC images can be recorded. A sample preparation area is available adjacent to the microscope room.

Service provided

Training in usage of the microscope is compulsory for all users and this usually can be completed in a single 2-3 hour session. Users are expected to prepare and analyse their own samples independently; however, further assistance is available upon request.

User responsibilities

It is user's responsibility to prepare samples. The user is also responsible for supplying details of any hazards associated with the preparation in line with COSHH regulations. All users are required to read and follow the guidelines on use of the confocal microscope, which are available on the Confocal Microscope Facility departmental webpage.

Confidentiality

All data and any related information regarding work carried out in the Confocal Microscope Facility will remain confidential and not released in any format without the permission of the user. Confidentiality agreements with commercial users can be made upon request.

Publication and acknowledgements

The service should be acknowledged as follows: "We acknowledge use of the Queen Mary University of London, School of Biological and Chemical Sciences Confocal Microscope facility."

Problem management

The user may approach Prof. Conrad Mullineaux in the case of any concern or for resolution of any difficulty.