

Department of Earth Sciences, University of Toronto

Policy for Use of Teaching Microscopes

April 2016

Prepared by the Departmental Analytical Facilities Committee: S Finkelstein (Chair), B Bergquist, J Bollmann, Z Zajacz, C Bray, M Gorton

The Department has a collection of microscopes with various capabilities which have been designated as prioritized for teaching purposes (undergraduate and graduate courses). An inventory of these microscopes and their capabilities is provided as an appendix. To enable equitable access to the microscopes for all instructors, to ensure that the whereabouts of these microscopes are known at all times, and to ensure their maintenance in proper working condition, the Analytical Facilities Committee has designated a coordinator for the microscope collection (Colin Bray, with Hong Li as back up if Colin is away) and has established the following guidelines for teaching microscope usage:

- Teaching takes highest priority in the use of these microscopes
- All requests to use or return teaching microscopes must go through the microscope coordinator (Colin Bray). Any request to use these microscopes must go to the coordinator, including those for regular weekly lab sessions, or for one-time-only demonstrations. The Analytical Facilities Committee asks that faculty members, graduate students or TAs no longer take teaching microscopes without notifying the coordinator to obtain permission.
- The microscope coordinator will maintain a set of keys / combination locks for the microscope storage cabinets.
- If microscopes are signed out during term time (Sept 1 – Apr 30), they must remain in the room in which their cabinets are located.
- Any problems with the microscopes should be reported to the coordinator (ie. bulbs needing replacement, loose knobs) for repair.
- During the summer or other times when these microscopes are not being used for teaching purposes, research students or faculty may sign out a microscope and remove it to their laboratory. The microscope coordinator will record the location of the microscope and the expected date of return. If the microscope is moved from the location indicated, the coordinator must be advised.
- The cost of repairing any damages sustained by the departmental microscopes while they are signed out to a research student or faculty member must be covered by the appropriate academic supervisor.

To contact the Colin Bray, the microscope coordinator, email: cjbray@es.utoronto.ca

Inventory of Departmental Microscopes (April 2016)

Room 2096: Olympus CX41 compound microscopes (10): 10x, 40x, 100x objectives, brightfield and phase contrast optics. Example applications: palynology, diatom analysis

Room 2096: Leitz SM-Lux compound microscopes (8): palynology

Room 2096: Research grade phase contrast microscopes (7)

Olympus BX50

Leica DM—LB

Nikon Optiphot-2

Leitz Dialux 20

Leitz Orthoplan (grey) (OP1)

Leitz Ortholux (grey) (OL2)

Leitz Dialux (grey) (DL2) – (needs rack and binoc head to be cleaned, very stiff)

Room 2096: Olympus SZ61TR stereo (dissecting) microscopes (5): 6.7-45x zoom (with 10x eyepieces), transmitted light base

Room 2100: Stereo microscopes (25)

Nikon SMZ-2 (16)

Nikon SMZ-2B (3)

Bausch & Lomb (4)

JENA (2)

Room 2101: Nikon Polarizing light microscopes (30): 100x oil immersion objectives

Room 2101: Nikon incident pol. light microscope (16)

Room 2109: Olympus BX50 Polarizing light microscope. Video microscope plus computer

Room 2109: Olympus SZ61 Stereo. Video microscope plus computer