DO YOU HAVE THIS IN YOUR LABORATORY?

Microscopes are a major part of laboratory equipment used for a variety of applications. One popular type being used today is confocal microscopes. Unlike conventional units, they offer advantages such as better resolution, a shallow depth of field, elimination of out-of-focus glare, and the ability to collect optical sections from thick specimens. This is all done using either a laser or a high power LED source to help create a field of vision on the sample being viewed.

The majority of registered (Class III B and IV) lasers in any biomedical research facility are confocal microscopes, which can contain a partial-beam laser inside the unit. If your lab has a confocal unit, you must contact the Office of Environmental Health and Safety, so (1) the microscope can be inventoried and registered as a Class III B or IV laser, and (2) all users can take the required laser safety training. Please contact Chris Bingel at x2769 if you have any questions.
APPROPRIATE LABORATORY CLOTHING
COVER UNPROTECTED SKIN WHenever POSSIBLE

Summer weather is here and you may be more comfortable wearing sandals or even shorts. Please remember that this type of apparel is not appropriate in the laboratory, so plan ahead and bring a change of clothing and shoes on days you plan to be in the lab. A laboratory coat should be worn over street clothes and laundered regularly. Accidents can occur anytime, so wearing proper clothing and footwear is important for protecting yourself from exposure to chemicals, infectious materials, blood borne pathogens and other hazardous materials. Protective footwear should cover your entire foot with no skin exposed. Flip-flops, sandals, crocs and ballet flats are not considered appropriate footwear for laboratory work, since exposed areas of skin are not protected against spills, sharps and contamination. Pants and long sleeve shirts should also be worn in conjunction with personal protective equipment, such as gloves, safety glasses and lab coats. Laboratory safety starts with proper attire, so before you enter the lab, please be sure to change into protective footwear and laboratory appropriate clothing.

Dos and Don’ts