

Resumption of services in the X-ray / Squid facility (subject to change)

Single crystal measurements

Phase I:

Start date: July 3 – Possible end date: July 19, 2020

No one, except for the X-ray staff, is allowed in room 2409. Samples to be measured should be dropped off with Dr. Reibenspies or Dr. Bhuvanesh. Please contact them ahead of time to coordinate the drop-off and data transfer once the collection is complete. Groups should continue to use the online system to reserve an instrument prior to dropping off a sample. The facility will be closed on weekends.

Phase II:

Earliest start date: July 20 – End date: tbd

Between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, no one, except for the X-ray staff, is allowed in room 2409. Samples to be measured should be dropped off with the Dr. Reibenspies or Dr. Bhuvanesh. Please contact them ahead of time to coordinate the drop-off and data transfer once the collection is complete. Groups should continue to use the online system to reserve an instrument prior to dropping a sample.

Between 5:00 pm and 2:00 am (weekday) and all day on weekends, access will be granted to superusers. There will be only one superuser per group. The name and UIN of this superuser should be sent to Dr. Reibenspies by the research advisor. Superusers will only be allowed in the facilities on the day of their instrument reservation. Cleaning/sanitization procedures will be communicated and have to be followed by the superusers.

Future: Details and dates for opening of the facilities in future phases will be worked out and communicated as the situation progresses.

[Currently we envision the following:

Phase III: Superusers (one per group) will have access to the facility on the day of their reservations.

Phase IV: Superusers (two per group) will have access to the facility on the day of their reservations.

Phase V: Return to regular operations.]

Powder Diffraction

Phase I:

Start date: July 3 – Possible end date: July 19, 2020

Instrument access:

Access will be granted to superusers on weekdays and weekends during these times:

10:00 am - 8:00 pm

10:00 pm – 6:00 am

There will be two superusers per group. The name and UIN of the superusers should be sent to Dr. Reibenspies by the research advisor. Time slots will be spaced out throughout the day so as to avoid more than two users in room 2407 at any given time and allow for disinfection periods between users.

Superusers have to follow facilities cleaning procedures and PPE requirements as outlined below:

PPE: Masks and Fresh Gloves are required. You may bring a lab coat as long as it has not been used in your research laboratory. Maintain a minimum of 2 meters between users at all times. No open toed shoes/sandals or short pants.

Cleaning procedures: You must wash your hands upon entry to rooms 2407 and 2409 and/or sanitize your hands with the isopropyl hand sanitizers. Use a new paper towel and then dispose of after use. Use fresh gloves when operating the X-ray instruments. Do not use the same gloves that you used to select and mount your samples.

Microscopes: Clean the microscope lens with the isopropyl wipes before use. Clean the focusing knobs and the base of the microscope with the isopropyl wipes. Clean all tools before and after use.

Service measurements: Service PXRD samples may be dropped off to Dr. Reibenspies or Dr. Bhuvanesh for data collection. Drop off area is the table near the east door of room 2407. Download sample submission form, fill in the appropriate information and mail to xray@tamu.edu.

Future: Details and dates for opening of the facilities in future phases will be worked out and communicated as the situation progresses.

SQUID

Phase I:

Start date: July 3 – Possible end date: July 19, 2020

The default SQUID reservation schedule will remain [3-1-3 (days), Dunbar-service-Nippe] active. Instrument access by a superuser on all days except Wednesdays (unless authorized by Dr. Bhuvanesh) will be granted only during:

6:00 am – 10:00 am
8:00 pm – 10:00 pm

There will be two superuser per group. The name and UIN of this superuser should be sent to Dr. Bhuvanesh by the research advisor. There can be only one user in the SQUID room at a given time.

PPE:

1. You must wash your hands upon entry to rooms 2407 and 2409 and/or sanitize your hands with the isopropyl hand sanitizers. Use a new paper towel and then dispose of after use.
2. Masks and fresh gloves are required. You may bring a lab coat as long as it has not been used in your research laboratory.
3. If others are present in the lab (X-ray powder/SQUID), you may either wait, or let them know (politely) it is your SQUID time, and you need to mount the sample. Make sure you maintain 6 ft. (or ~ 2 meters) distance. No open toed shoes/sandals or short pants.

Cleaning procedures PPE:

1. When you prepare your specimen, make sure you wear gloves (please bring your own, correct sized, fresh pairs of gloves).
2. Keep the area clean and accountable (mark your specimen and other items you bring). Remember to take back the things you bring with you when leaving the lab.
3. Clean the balance area before and after you use with isopropyl alcohol. Do not use force to clean the weighing plate inside the balance; it is too delicate.

4. When you use the computer, please use fresh pair of gloves. If possible, avoid using the computer/keyboard in the SQUID lab. You may use *teamviewer* to start and follow the measurement.

Future: Details and dates for opening of the facilities in future phases will be worked out and communicated as the situation progresses.