BREAKING NEWS

Sick of Academia or Just Looking for a Change?
The World’s Greatest Flow Core is looking to add a new recruit!

The Penn Cytomics core will be posting a position for a new member of the staff.

The Resource technologist B/C will provide high quality cell sorting and analytical services to the investigators using the Penn Cytomics and Cell Sorting Shared Resource Laboratory. Working closely with the Technical Director in the development of quality assurance protocols for a wide variety of instrumentation, the successful candidate will also be responsible for performing and documenting the daily quality assurance of cytometry instrumentation across multiple departments. A knowledge of complex flow cytometry instrumentation is required with minimum of 3-5 years (5+ years for C position) of analytical flow cytometry or cell sorter experience. Experience with BD Biosciences platforms preferred but other platforms considered for the experienced candidate. A knowledge of biosafety practices and procedures is highly desired. This position involves working closely with a wide array of investigators from multiple departments across campus and implementing best practices for analysis and cell sorting. Additional duties include training qualified users for independent cell sorting and analysis, developing and updating standard operating procedures, and participating in equipment or protocol validation. Participation continuing education in cytometry is expected. The professional cytometry certification, SCYM(ASCP)CM is a plus, but support to obtain this qualification will be provided for the successful candidate.

If you are looking for a change or need a different challenge and want to be involved in working with the latest technologies, apply now or stop by and talk to us about this exciting new journey of your life!

Instrumentation

FACSMelody
Do you do repetitive studies using sorting into multiwell plates? Do you want to be able to set up a standard set of criteria for each experiment? The FACSMelody located in 8-205 South Tower may be just the sorter you are looking for. Created to be used in a commercial or clinical setting, this easy-to-use sorter offers unique approach. Though we have had one for a while, we had some issues but now it has been replaced and is now available for sorting by trained users. For those of you who do not know, the Melody is a user run sorter that has 3 lasers (Blue/Red/Violet) and can run 8 color panels. The Melody is known for exceptional single cell sorting into 96 well trays, as well as bulk sorting into 1.5 and 5mL tubes. The Melody runs Chorus software where no compensation is required. Training classes are available by request on our web page. If you are interested in the Melody and have questions, please reach out to the Cytomics Core today.

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Promotions

CYTO 2022 Philadelphia
ISAC will be holding its annual meeting in Philadelphia from June 3-7, 2022, at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. Since this will be held in our city, the Cytomics Core would love to have a big showing from all our users and display as much UPenn research as we can in the poster sessions. If you would like to present your research at CYTO 2022 Philadelphia, watch our website for a link in the next few days for abstracts. This year’s theme is cell and immune therapy and will feature many Penn folks including John Wherry and Drew Weissman. Join us for the most current technology and science in the cell and immune therapy fields as well as many other topics.

https://isac-net.org/events/eventdetails.aspx?id=1505553

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**Policy Reminders**

**No Cluster tubes**

Please remember that starting January 4, 2022, that Cluster tubes/Inserts tubes/Bullet tubes, are not allowed to be used on any Penn Cytomics analyzer (Canto/LSR II, Fortessa, A3 Lite, or A5 Symphony).

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**No eating or drinking**

This is a reminder that it is University of Pennsylvania policy that you are to not eat and drink in the lab, that includes while you are running on any Penn Cytomics analyzer or sorter. If you feel you need to eat or drink, please leave the room.

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**Sorter Cancellation Policy**

The Penn Cytomics Core’s sort cancellation policy is as follows:

Cancellation of less than 72 hours (or 3 working days) of your sort day will result in a charge of the time that was scheduled for you if a replacement sort cannot be found. A cancellation of more than 72 hours will result in no charge.

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**Filtering samples**
Please remember to filter your samples right before putting your cells on the analyzer. Filtering hours or days before will likely result in the cell clumping again.

Congratulations

Penn Cytomics congratulates Jen Jakobowski, MS, SCYM(ASCP)CM who now adds the Professional Cytometrist, SCYM(ASCP)CM certification to her list of technical qualifications. Jen joins the ranks of a select group of resource laboratory technologists around the world who have attained this certification. Penn Cytomics is pleased to now have ALL of our staff receiving this certification. This underscores our continuing commitment to offering Penn investigators access to the highest quality of instrumentation along with the highest level of expertise in cytomics. Keep on Flowin’ Jen, we are proud of you!

FLOWbituary
The Penn Cytomics Lab officially announces the retirement of our Technical Director, Tom Williams. Tom will be retiring on March 31, 2022. Tom started in flow cytometry back in 1979 at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine, under the direction of Noel Warner. This was truly as the discipline was in its infancy. In 1981, Tom got his first job in the field of cytometry, when he took over operation of the New Mexico School of Medicine Flow Cytometry lab. Tom decided to venture out of the great state of New Mexico and become a nomad for the next couple of years with stops at the University of Rochester, Northwestern, and the University of Illinois. For the next decade or so, Tom decided to leave academia and enter the world of industry. Tom went to an agricultural research company in Princeton called American Cyanamid, but more importantly, during his time in Princeton, Tom met his wife, Lynn. In 1991, Tom was about to start his first stint at BD, as an application specialist, but that was put on hold for a couple days because Tom’s first day at BD was also the day his son Drew was born. One of Tom’s first site visits as a BD Applications Specialist was at the UPenn with Hank Pletcher which began his long association with the UPenn Flow Core. After BD, Tom went to startup Zynaxis followed by some time at SmithKlineBeecham. After SKB, he had a second stint at BD, followed by Johnson and Johnson and Biolegend. In 2014, Tom found his way back to the Abramson Cancer Center Flow Cytometry and Cell sorting Resource Lab (aka Penn Cytomics) where he became a senior technologist and eventually Technical Director or Operations. Over the last 8 years, the lab and the Penn Community have benefited from his experience and expertise in all things flow cytometry, but especially from his outstanding teaching. Tom plans to travel lots and loves the outdoors. With all this extra time on his hand, we are counting on you to perfect the ultimate margarita recipe! Take a moment over the next few weeks and stop by to wish Tom well. We’ll miss you Tom, but as you know once a member of the Penn Flow Family, it is for life!