

Dear Princeton Researchers,

As the Phased Resumption of laboratory research is allowed on campus now, I would like to share with you our plan to better protect the health and safety of our staff and researchers in the Genomics Core Facility during this challenging time. The following operational changes will be implemented in the Phase Resumption stage in compliance with public health guidance. The key is to keep social distancing by controlling core lab occupancy.

Changes in providing genomics services:

1. The Genomics Core Facility will have up to two staff members working in the core laboratory at the same time.
2. To maintain the sample processing throughput, the core facility staff will work in shifts including off-hours.
3. Sequencing libraries already made will be given higher priority than library preparation to speed up the turnaround.
4. The sample drop off refrigerator will be relocated from the core lab to the hallway to minimize personal contact. An iLab calendar will be created for researchers to schedule sample drop off, allowing one researcher in each ten-minute window.

Changes in accessing shared instruments:

1. Some self-services will be changed to full services performed by the core staff to reduce traffic in the core lab, including: Nanodrop, Qubit, and BluePippin.
2. Only one researcher will be allowed in the core lab to use a self-service instrument at any given time, due to limited lab space. The restricted scheduling is implemented via our updated iLAB calendar. It would be helpful to make an iLab reservation before doing your experiment.
3. Researchers should wear their own disposable masks and gloves in the core facility.
4. Disinfection material and instruction will be provided for each shared instrument. Researchers are required to clean up the instrument and working area both before and after use.
5. Labs with heavy usage on the small inexpensive shared instruments (such as Nanodrop and Qubit) are encouraged to purchase their own unit or use the full services.
6. Training on the shared instruments will be provided remotely. Before the training, researchers are highly recommended to thoroughly study the reading and video material provided by the core facility.

Please feel free to let us know what you think, all feedback is welcome. Thanks for your support.

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