



FASEB

Federation of American Societies
for Experimental Biology

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Ensuring Proper Acknowledgement of Shared Resource Facilities and Instrumentation: Position Statement of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

Shared resource facilities and instrumentation broaden access to cutting-edge technology, create new opportunities for interdisciplinary research, and extend the value of research funding. The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) recognizes the unique contributions of these facilities to life science research and the need for their continued support. By acknowledging shared resource facilities and instrumentation in publications, presentations, and other research communications, investigators play a critical role in ensuring their continued availability and future development. While such recognition is often a condition of grants that support facilities and defray user costs, acknowledgement is important regardless of grant requirements, as it contributes to assessment of facility productivity. Low acknowledgement rates diminish the ability to secure future support for an individual facility from external sponsors and the home institution. Acknowledgement also serves as an important source of professional recognition for facility directors and staff members who provide critical support and technical expertise for individual research projects. Reporting of facility and instrumentation also contributes to rigorous and transparent reporting of research results.

FASEB strongly encourages formal acknowledgement of the utilization of shared resource facilities and instrumentation in research communications. This is consistent with the best practice to recognize technical, intellectual, financial, and material contributions to a research project. All research manuscripts, publications, presentations, posters, conference proceedings, grant proposals, and grant reports that use data produced through a facility should include acknowledgement. FASEB encourages journals and other scientific publishers to consider mechanisms that help prompt or facilitate recognition of facility use, such as provision of sufficient space to include this information. Through such acknowledgement, investigators help demonstrate the value of these resources and the personnel that support them.