

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY  
**Cellular & Molecular Digital Imaging Facility**  
**CORES, Faculty of Medicine**  
*December 2016*

Imagine having the ability to see incredibly detailed pictures of what's happening at the molecular and cellular level, while determining how they are functioning.

The Cellular & Molecular Digital Imaging Facility is Dalhousie Medical School's largest and longest-running multi-user CORES (Centralized Operations of Research Equipment and Supports) facility. This particular facility has been in operation since the fall of 1998, beginning with the purchase and installation of the medical school's first laser-scanning confocal microscope.

The facility provides access to equipment for researchers that they wouldn't have in their labs.

"We have eleven rooms filled with sophisticated equipment, including state-of-the-art microscopy equipment, software, technical support and training for researchers," says Stephen Whitefield, Manager of the Cellular & Molecular Digital Imaging Facility.

Originally located in the Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building, the facility has greatly expanded over the past 18 years. In the summer of 2016, it moved to a brand new location in the Life Sciences Research Institute.

On average, between 125 and 150 individual investigators make use of the facility annually. The research they are conducting is on a wide variety of topics – including cancer, neuroscience, cardiovascular, inflammation, immunity and infectious diseases.

### **CORES: Multi-user research spaces at Dalhousie's Faculty of Medicine**

The research facilities that fall under the Faculty of Medicine's CORES program are designed to serve the needs of many different researchers providing high-tech equipment and lab space for a variety of basic, clinical, and applied research applications.

In addition to the Cellular and Molecular Digital Imaging Facility, Dalhousie has five other CORES facilities. They include:

- [Enhanced Gene Analysis & Discovery Facility](#)
- [Flow Cytometry Facility](#)
- [Maritime Brain Tissue Bank](#)
- [Proteomics & Mass Spectrometry Facility](#)
- [Zebrafish Core Facility](#)

"Dalhousie has truly exceptional researchers and we need to provide them with all the supports that will allow them to continue to be world-class," says Carla Ross, Director of Research Development in the Faculty of Medicine and Managing Director of CORES. "Having access to the equipment and expertise in these facilities, makes all the difference to our faculty."



*Photo courtesy of Maritime Brain Tissue Bank*

### **Research Support Fund**

The federal Research Support Fund (RSF) helps to fund the CORES program at Dalhousie. Established in 2003, the RSF (formerly the Indirect Costs Program) helps Canadian universities and colleges, along with their affiliated health research institutes and research hospitals, with the indirect costs associated with federally-funded research. In addition to CORES, the RSF supports research space facility fees, electronic data access and resources, Research Services' staff, regulatory compliance, research commercialization and intellectual property services and support at Dalhousie University and affiliate hospitals.

More information on CORES can be found on the [Research CORE Facilities website](#).

More information of the Research Support Fund can be found [here](#).