

The Expanding World of Nanofabrication

An update from the Kingston NanoFabrication Lab – September, 2015

Good day,

You are receiving this important news from KNFL as a registered user of the lab, or a supervisor. As the lab continues to go through commissioning, there will be significant changes that will be communicated to all users to keep everyone up to date on lab procedures. Users are expected to follow current lab protocols, so please read through this news before returning to the lab. As always, if you have any questions or comments about the lab or associated procedures, please feel free to contact me.

Here are some important changes at KNFL:

Website

The website for KNFL is now online. You can access it at <http://knfl.ca> (no “www”). The site will change periodically to improve the user experience and update information, so please visit regularly. The site includes background information about the lab and equipment, contact information, safety protocols, fee schedule, and access procedures, among other things.

Lab Booking Calendar

As part of the website, there is a calendar that shows all the tools that can be scheduled and the times that each is available for booking. Users will soon receive the ability to log in and schedule time on their own, but for the near term please continue to request time by contacting me. When doing so, please specify a block of time that you plan to use a particular tool for the benefit of others trying to book the same tool.

Updated Documents

Also posted on the website are updated versions of documents for KNFL, including the Safety Manual and Gowning Protocol. You can always find the current version of any KNFL document on the website. Please review these documents to refresh your mind about important safety and procedural information, and to get up to date on lab procedures. The KNFL Incident Report Form is also available on the website, and we remind you to use it to report incidents that happen in the lab to KNFL staff so that dangerous situations can be avoided.

KNFL Lab Usage Procedures Document

A new document that is now available on the website (http://knfl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/KNFL_GeneralProcedure_d5.pdf) describes the general procedures we expect KNFL users to follow in the lab. These procedures are designed to keep the lab in good working order, to improve efficiency, and prevent problems – generally to improve the KNFL experience for all users. This document describes user conduct expectations, lab access, scheduling, discipline, and what items and behaviours are allowed in the cleanroom, among other things. This is the first time users will have seen these procedures written down, so please read this document carefully. With posted procedures in

place, enforcement of KNFL procedures will ramp up quickly, so please be prepared when you come to the lab.

Other News

- KNFL now has a Health and Safety Committee. More information can be found here: <http://knfl.ca/safety/>
- The Raith electron-beam lithography system will soon be ready for general use. You will be notified shortly when we intend to begin charging fees for its use.
- There is a new Reactive Ion Etching system that will arrive at KNFL soon. Watch for a notice about upcoming availability.

If you have registered as a user but have not yet started work in the lab, you are encouraged to contact us to see how we can help get your project started.

If you think of a colleague that might be interested in KNFL's products and services, please pass on our website and contact info to them!

See you at the lab! Have a great day!

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