

SMOA acknowledgments guidelines

Correctly **acknowledging** the **scientific services** is important for a number of reasons:



Recognize the efforts and motivate the technical staff: Recognizing everyone's efforts fosters a **collaborative environment** and ensures that everyone's work is appreciated. This, in turn, **motivates the technical staff** to maintain high standards and **facilitates their professional advancement**.



Highlight resources and enhance our center's reputation: Acknowledging the services utilized (specialized equipment, software, or expertise) **showcases the resources and excellence of the CBM**. This can **enhance our reputation** within the scientific community, attracting more researchers and potential collaborators.



Funding and support: Thanking the scientific services for their work shows that their contributions and expertise are having a tangible impact on research and demonstrates that resources are being used effectively. This helps **justify the funding provided** and can be crucial for **securing future funding** or **maintaining existing support**.



Transparency: Services must also be accountable for the experiments conducted in our facilities. Ethical research practices require transparency about the resources and support that contributed to the findings. Recognizing the services is therefore part of the efforts to **maintain integrity in research**.

How to do it...

| Acknowledgment Tiers | Acknowledgment wording | Examples | Considerations |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Tier C</p> <p>- General facility acknowledgment -</p> | <p>We acknowledge the Advanced Light Microscopy Facility (SMOA) at the Centro de Biología Molecular Severo Ochoa (CBM).</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training - Common help: Computer crashes, I cannot focus, where is my signal...? - General advice: Which microscope do I use?, Why do I have so much noise?, Controls... what?, How do I open the image?, How do I put a scale bar?, How do I change the color of my images? | <p>Tier A should be considered compulsory if the publication has images or analysis performed with SMOA systems or the help of SMOA technicians.</p> |
| <p>Tier B</p> <p>- Acknowledgment of the facility highlighting technician support -</p> | <p>We acknowledge the Advanced Light Microscopy Facility (SMOA) at the Centro de Biología Molecular Severo Ochoa (CBM), specially to [TECHNICIAN/S NAME] who has contributed with [WHAT HAVE THEY DONE].</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very specific experimental design discussions: Testing different microscopes or protocols, reading carefully your papers to understand specific questions, analyzing your results to propose improvements... - Constant help/advice on image acquisition: Being there most of the times with you checking that everything is okay, accompanying you while setting everything, sitting with you to discuss your data/understand your images... | <p>From Tier C to Tier B:</p> <p>Please evaluate the effort that SMOA technicians have contributed to your experiments; if beyond routine assistance, consider acknowledging it at Tier B.</p> |
| <p>Tier A</p> <p>- Authorship -</p> | <p>Affiliation:</p> <p>Advanced Light Microscopy Facility (SMOA), Centro de Biología Molecular Severo Ochoa (CBM).</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creation of specific acquisition protocols and working on their improvement through time - Creation of macros and complex image analysis pipelines | <p>From Tier B to Tier A:</p> <p>Tier A (authorship) remains solely at the PI's discretion. We recommend following established journal authorship guidelines.</p> |