

Closure of Scientific Resource Centers at The Rockefeller University

As current technologies mature and new ones emerge, the demand for services and products from the University's scientific resource centers may decrease or the scientific centers may come into competition with new and less expensive commercial sources. As the University undertakes new administrative initiatives, new demands may be made on the University's operating funds or upon available space. These factors may lead to the need for review the commitment of university resources to the operation of the scientific center. The University reserves the right to cease a scientific center's operation and/or close a center based upon overall University operational needs. This document describes the general process for closing a scientific center.

The Office of Research Support, with input from the directors and the Scientific Advisory Committees of the Scientific Resource Centers, monitors the usage levels and financial status of the scientific centers as well as the availability of alternate sources. Marked changes in these areas may indicate that research needs can be better met through other means. If appropriate, the Associate Vice President for Research Support will develop a proposal for closure of an existing scientific resource center which takes into consideration a historic overview of the center's operation and usage and addresses at least the following:

- Rationale for recommendation for closure
- Alternative sources for center services/products
- Potential impact on RU research
 - Reports on consultation with key/large faculty users and/or with members of the SAC
 - Convenience factor
 - Cost differential of alternate sources
 - Duplication of equipment/staffing within labs
- Schedule for closure
- Communication plan (to Center staff, to users, to campus)
- Separation or transfer of center staff (developed in coordination with Human Resources)
- Disposition of equipment/supplies

Completed proposals will be submitted to the Executive Vice President.