Dear NUCAPT Users,

We are pleased to announce that research activities at NUCAPT will resume on Friday, June 12, 2020, strictly following the safety precautions set out in on the “Core Responsibilities” website of the University. We are moving to Step 2 “research ramp-up”, in terms of Northwestern’s Return to Campus plan, piloting laboratory activities with limited user access. At this time, we are not able to welcome visitors that are not affiliated with the University, but we can process samples submitted by mail.

All users must have completed the Pandemic Essentials Course before coming to campus. Please do not come to campus if you have been on an airplane in the previous 14 days, show or suspect symptoms, or were in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19. Any work that can be done from home and with an internet connection should be done remotely to reduce the number of people present at the labs. We are continuing remote access to the IVAS workstations for computer-based data evaluation of atom-probe tomography data sets.

At the NUCAPT laboratory, please follow the following guidelines:

**Social Distancing:**
- Room occupancy limits: maximum 4 (FOUR) at the LEAP lab Cook Hall #1082-1086, and maximum 6 (SIX) at Cook Hall #1102/1160.
- Use the user occupancy schedules in NUCore to indicate the time you are spending at the laboratories. Access NUCore with your phone to minimize use of the lab computers.
- Keep at least 6 feet distance from other users, even when wearing a face mask
- Follow rules posted on doors for traffic-flow and occupancy limits for each room.
- Technical assistance and support for questions or problems with the instruments must be requested by e-mail or phone. Do not come to the facility manager’s office. Support will be provided primarily via e-mail, screen sharing, and over phone.
- Meetings for discussing results or group meetings must be held via online tools. No gatherings are currently allowed at the laboratories.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):**
- All users must wear face masks, except when following protocols for working with chemicals.
- Users must wear gloves while using any instrument.
- Boxes with face masks and gloves are stationed near the designated entrance door.

**Hygiene**
- Wash hands frequently, at least before entering the lab and after leaving the lab.
- Wipe frequently touched surfaces before and after using equipment. This includes countertop surfaces and desks, computer keyboards and mice, control panels, buttons, handles and levers and so on. Do not pour solvents over any equipment, only use a wet wipe.
- To track cleaning, sign-up sheets have been posted next to all instruments and users are required to enter initials, time in, time out, and indicate with check boxes that they have cleaned the surfaces before and after use.
- Hand sanitizer and disinfection solution are stationed by the designated entrance door, together with wipes. Please do not remove the containers, just use one at a time.

Please contact us by email or phone if you have questions or have comment what to improve!

Thank you and With Best Regards,

Dieter Isheim for NUCAPT facility management
P.S: Please include the following acknowledgement in any publication or release that includes data created at NUCAPT: “Atom-probe tomography was performed at the Northwestern University Center for Atom-Probe Tomography (NUCAPT). The LEAP tomograph at NUCAPT was purchased and upgraded with grants from the NSF-MRI (DMR-0420532) and ONR-DURIP (N00014-0400798, N00014-0610539, N00014-0910781, N00014-1712870) programs. NUCAPT received support from the MRSEC program (NSF DMR-1720139) at the Materials Research Center, the SHyNE Resource (NSF ECCS-1542205), and the Initiative for Sustainability and Energy (ISEN) at Northwestern University.”