Introducing iLab Solutions for Core Facilities

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NIH Definition

“Core facilities are centralized shared research resources that provide access to instruments, technologies, services, as well as expert consultation and other services to scientific and clinical investigators. The typical core facility is a discrete unit within an institution and may have dedicated personnel, equipment, and space for operations. In general, core facilities recover their cost, or a portion of their cost, of providing service in the form of user fees that are charged to an investigator's funds.”

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/core_facilities_faqs.htm#3597
### Top 10 NIH Funded Institutions FY2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Categorical Presence</th>
<th>Web Presence for Cores</th>
<th>Dedicated Admin</th>
<th>Advisory Committee</th>
<th>Guidelines</th>
<th>Online Scheduling</th>
<th>Expo</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Johns Hopkins University</td>
<td>Centralized</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of California San Francisco</td>
<td>Centralized</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>University of Michigan</strong></td>
<td><strong>Distributed</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>In progress</td>
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<td>Centralized</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Pittsburgh</td>
<td>Focused</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stanford University</td>
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<td>University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yale University</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Centralized</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Some</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


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### Core Facilities

**TAMU and Affiliated Agencies**

- Determined by web mining and input from URC Deans
- 110 self-described core facilities
- 87 cores with a website and contact information
- Tremendous heterogeneity
  - Full service
  - Self service
  - Business models
  - Access
- Directors’ listserv established
  - [CORE-FACILITIES-DIRECTORS@LISTSERV.TAMU.EDU](mailto:core-facilities-directors@listserv.tamu.edu)
- Centralized list of core facilities is now available
  - Highlighted on Division of Research homepage
  - Also on Resources page: [http://vpr.tamu.edu/resources](http://vpr.tamu.edu/resources)
Responses from representatives for 36 cores, 12/2/16
iLab Solutions

- Web-based core facility management tools
  - Cores can post available services, equipment, prices, control who can access the core, track requests, and bill customers
  - Researchers can identify and reserve equipment or services and track status of requests
  - Administrators can produce revenue and equipment usage reports.

- Piloted in one core

- Institutional Site License for 30 cores
  - Core Facility Management Module
  - Identity Management Integration [DONE]
  - Full Financial Integration

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Project Plan
Priority for iLabs Queue

1. Core has received a review from a funding agency requiring such a system be used

1. Core has received RDF support or continuing support from DOR

1. Core billing ranked highest to lowest amongst interested cores

2. For early waves, simplicity of work flows

3. Co-location of cores in the same building for ease of communication