**UMass Chan Medical School launches Partner in Microscopy program with Leica Microsystems**

BOSTON, MA, October 17, 2023 – The Sanderson Center for Optical Experimentation (SCOPE) at UMass Chan Medical School and Leica Microsystems, Inc. have collaborated to establish the Partner in Microscopy site at UMass Chan. This program aims to support the joint mission of educating the next generation of scientists and engineers and driving new scientific discoveries while furthering the Medical School’s efforts as a world-leading academic and scientific institution.

The collaboration between UMass Chan and Leica Microsystems was formalized on Oct. 12, 2023, during UMass Chan’s Imaging Week 2023, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by representatives from both institutions. The facility will showcase cutting-edge imaging solutions from Leica microsystems, such as the STELLARIS 8 Confocal Microscope and STED, AIVIA AI image analysis platform, and Mica Widefield and Confocal Microhub.

“We’re thrilled to embark on this partnership with Leica Microsystems,” said Christina Baer, PhD, associate professor of microbiology & physiological systems and director of SCOPE. “The collaboration allows us to push the boundaries of what is possible in the realm of microscopy, providing a vital resource to our local scientific community."

The site will provide a place for experts from across the scientific community to come together and share knowledge through workshops and seminars. Commenting on the launch, Douglas Giszczynski, Director of Strategic Programs at Leica Microsystems, said, “We are honored to announce our collaboration with UMass Chan, a world-class organization. We are humbled that they see the value of having a strategic partnership with us. Through our Partner in Microscopy program, the institution will be able to provide feedback that we need to drive innovation. This will not only help us improve our technological and software tools but also help us develop workflow solutions.”

“Leica Microsystems is proud to partner with UMass Chan and SCOPE Imaging Core lead by Dr. Baer,” said Ali Rajanek, Regional Sales Manager – Northeast of Leica Microsystems. “Through our partnership we aim to promote access to state-of-the-art imaging and data analysis tools to educators and researchers. Our mission is to learn from the community, work alongside them, and advance scientific discovery and education together with UMass Chan. We look forward to continuing this exciting alliance for years to come.”

**About Leica Microsystems**

Leica Microsystems develops and manufactures microscopes and scientific instruments for the analysis of microstructures and nanostructures. Ever since the company started as a family business in the nineteenth century, its instruments have been widely recognized for their optical precision and innovative technology. It is one of the market leaders in compound and stereo microscopy, digital microscopy, confocal laser scanning microscopy with related imaging systems, electron microscopy sample preparation, and surgical microscopes.

Find out more at [www.leica-microsystems.com](http://www.leica-microsystems.com)