Monthly Caps for UD Users

To allow UD researchers to better predict and control research costs, effective November 1, 2016 the UDNF has implemented a capped option for user fees. To be eligible for a rate cap, UD users are expected to contribute to a collaborative atmosphere within the UDNF by:

- Providing frequent and timely feedback to UDNF staff on tool performance, helping to identify potential problems before they occur.
- Sharing and discussing process recipes with UDNF staff and new users, allowing UDNF to build a library of recipes and shorten the time required for new users to bring up a new process.
- Occasionally running calibration or test samples for UDNF personnel.

UD users who are unwilling or unable to meet these expectations may continue to use the facility, but will not be eligible for capped rates. The authority to determine whether users are complying with these expectations lies with the UDNF Director of Operations.

All caps will be computed and applied per user, per project (i.e. project ID or purpose code):

- Each user must hit the cap independently from any other user in their group even if they are working on the same project.
- A user who performs work on multiple separate projects must use the appropriate purpose code for the work performed for each project.
- Fee adjustments based on caps will be computed separately for each purpose code. If a grant proposal budget includes support for multiple personnel performing nanofabrication work, the grant budget request should include sufficient funds to support capped rate expenditures for each user. Users found to violate these rules will lose their eligibility for capped rates.

Capped structure:

- Facility access fees have a “hard cap”: $500 / month per user, per project.
- Equipment use fees have a “soft cap”: equipment use will be charged at 20% of the standard rate for all use above $500 / month per user, per project.

Several examples of capped fee calculations are provided in this document.

Notes:

- Precious metals and other consumables not covered by the equipment fee and the cleanroom access fee are not subject to caps.
- Fees for use of the e-beam lithography system ($80 / hr) are not capped because the EBL is operated with a high level of staff support that reduces the overall time required to obtain results.
- Service charges (i.e. staff doing work on behalf of users and/or PIs) are not subject to caps.
Monthly Caps for UD Users - Examples

Capped structure example #1
• UD “User A” works on a single project (XYZ) during the month.
• Before caps are applied, her total facility access for the month is $300 and her total equipment use for the month is $400.
• Project XYZ gets charged $700 ($300 for facility access and $400 for equipment use).

Capped structure example #2
• UD “User A” works on a single project (XYZ) during the month.
• Before caps are applied, her total facility access for the month is $300 and her total equipment use for the month is $400.
• Her capped Facility access fee for the month is $300.
• Her capped equipment use fee of the month is $540 [500+0.2*(700-500)].
• Project XYZ gets charged $840.

Capped structure example #3
• UD “User A” works on a single project (XYZ) during a month.
• Before caps are applied, her total facility access for the month is $600 and her total equipment use for the month is $700.
• Her capped Facility access fee for the month is $500.
• Her capped equipment use fee of the month is $540 [500+0.2*(700-500)].
• Project XYZ gets charged $1,040.

Capped structure example #4
• UD “User A” works on two projects (XYZ and DEF) during the month.
• Before caps are applied, her total facility access for the month is $300 on project XYZ and $400 on project DEF.
• Before caps are applied, her total equipment use for the month is $400 on project XYZ and $500 on project DEF.
• Project XYZ get charged $700 ($300 for facility access and $400 for equipment use).
• Project DEF get charged $900 ($400 for facility access and $500 for equipment use).

Capped structure example #5
• UD “User A” works on two projects (XYZ and DEF) during the month.
• Before caps are applied, her total facility access for the month is $300 on project XYZ and $600 on project DEF.
• Before caps are applied, her total equipment use for the month is $400 on project XYZ and $700 on project DEF.
• Project XYZ is charged $700 ($300 for facility access and $400 for equipment use).
• Project DEF is charged $1,040 ($500 for facility access and $540 for equipment use).

Capped structure example #6
• UD “User A” and “User B” work on the same project (XYZ) during the month.
• Before caps are applied, “User A’s” total facility access for the month is $300 and “User B’s” total facility access for the month is $400.
• Before caps are applied, “User A’s” total equipment use for the month is $400 and “User B’s” total equipment use for the month is $500.
• Project XYZ is charged $700 for facility access ($300 for “User A” and $400 for “User B”).
• Project XYZ is charged $900 for equipment use ($400 for “User A” and $500 for “User B”).

Capped structure example #7
• UD “User A” and “User B” work on the same project (XYZ) during the month.
• Before caps are applied, “User A’s” total facility access for the month is $300 and “User B’s” total facility access for the month is $600.
• Before caps are applied, “User A’s” total equipment use for the month is $400 and User B’s total equipment use for the month is $700.
• Project XYZ is charged $800 for facility access ($300 for “User A” and $500 for “User B”).
• Project XYZ is charged $940 for equipment use ($400 for “User A” and $540 for “User B”).