

## BU TIMS Facility

### Recharge Fee Structure and Philosophy 8/28/09



#### Philosophy

The BU TIMS Facility is an open regional facility that primarily serves the academic community, with priority given to NSF funded science. We encourage active hands-on participation of all users, including all clean lab work, sample loading, and TIMS analyses. By inviting and welcoming users for visits to the Facility and investing our time in training and assisting users, everyone benefits from a richer, more personal, collaborative research experience. Student users benefit in particular as they learn the methods of isotope geochemistry and conduct their own analyses (with the assistance of BU personnel), eliminating the “black box” from isotopic analysis. We believe that this approach provides the most enriching experience for all.

A corollary to this philosophy is that we do not widely solicit “**contract work**” (i.e. when samples are sent and BU personnel does the clean lab and/or TIMS analytical work and returns data) and due to their labor-intensiveness such contract samples are assessed additional charges for clean lab and TIMS labor costs. The benefit of operating a regional Facility is the engagement in the science that drives the analyses and the new collaborative scientific endeavors that result. Such an open regional facility can be a hub for the exchange of ideas and the development of new analytical techniques and research directions. Thus, we encourage the development of collaborative scientific projects involving BU personnel (“**collaborative science**” is defined as TIMS-related science wherein BU students or faculty contribute to aspects of project design, analysis, or interpretation, and are co-authors on resulting conference presentations and publications). Visitors to the lab should expect to work closely with the TIMS Facility Lab Manager as well as a BU student and/or faculty collaborator.

#### Recharge Fee Structure

Our fee structure applies to all users of the Facility. At the discretion of the Facility, we may offer a “bulk user discount” to users who will be paying for greater than 100 analyses within a single calendar year (the discount would apply only to samples run after the first 100 in a calendar year). In general, we charge by the sample filament. Any sample filament that is loaded will be paid for by the specified user. Samples that do not run as expected due to a BU error may be waived at the discretion of the TIMS Facility Lab Manager. Samples that do not run as desired due to user error, poor chemistry, small sample size or other complicating factors generally will be charged. Before any new project is initiated, potential users should discuss their needs and plans with the TIMS Facility Lab Manager.

Strontium	\$75/sample filament
Neodymium (oxide)	\$75/sample filament
Neodymium (metal)	\$90/sample filament
Samarium	\$90/sample filament
Calcium	\$90/sample filament
Lead	\$75/sample filament
Mixed Spike	\$75/sample filament
BU lab blanks run with samples	Included
BU standards run with samples	Included
BU development work	Included
On site User Training	Included (for collaborative science, as defined above)
On site use of clean lab	Included (for collaborative science, as defined above)
On site use of MicroMill	Included (for collaborative science, as defined above)
TIMS labor surcharge for “Contract Work”	\$25/sample filament (in addition to above fees)
Clean Lab labor surcharge for “Contract Work”	\$50/sample filament (in addition to above fees)
BU undergraduate research for academic programs credit (includes UROP, Directed Study, Senior Work for Distinction)	No charge (justified by BU College of Arts and Sciences ongoing support of the TIMS Facility)