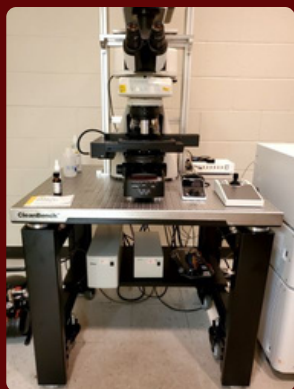


The Nikon Center of Excellence in Biology gets over 150 hours of use each month

Thank you to all our users!



The Nikon AX-R laser scanning confocal microscope is currently the **most-used instrument** in the MIC, averaging **over 100 hours of use each month**. It logged over **260 hours** in February alone! It is used for both live and fixed imaging by several labs. Many of our Pictures of the Month were taken on this instrument.



The Nikon nSPARC confocal/superresolution microscope is the **third most-used instrument**, following the Quanta SEM, averaging over **60 hours** of use each month.

Contact: [Dr. Sara Maynard](#)

MIC WILL HOST TSM 2027

Texas Society for Microscopy



MIC staff **Dr. Stan Vitha** is the program chairperson and is working hard to organize the meeting.

This annual event brings together experts and enthusiasts in microscopy to share knowledge, showcase the latest advancements, and network with peers. The meeting features **hands-on workshops** on both electron and fluorescence microscopy, featuring many of the MIC's instruments (Thursday), a scientific conference with **platform and poster presentations**, and a vendor fair with **over 20 vendors** (Friday). Registration opens October 1, 2026!

MIC NEWSLETTER

March 2026

ILSB 1143

microscopy.tamu.edu

Every month the MIC will send out a newsletter with up-to-date announcements, instrument highlights, and upcoming events. See previous newsletters on our website, [here](#).

STAFF HIGHLIGHT

Dr. Stan Vitha

stanvitha@tamu.edu
ILSB 1131

Expertise: Life & Material Sciences. Light & Electron Microscopy



Dr. Stan Vitha received his Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology in 1995 from the University of South Bohemia, Czech Republic. During his postdoctoral research at Ohio State University, University of Nevada, Reno, and Michigan State University, he worked on **gravitropism, phototropism, and the chloroplast division mechanism in plants**. Stan joined the Microscopy and Imaging Center in August 2004.

From 2016 to 2018 he served as an interim director of MIC. In 2018 he received the **A&M President's Meritorious Service Award**. Nowadays he is involved in **optical microscopy and scanning electron microscopy** imaging, user training, and biological and soft matter sample preparation for SEM and TEM. He enjoys teaching the **BIOL608 light microscopy course** and talking to users about their projects over a cup of coffee. His favorite extracurricular activities include kolache baking and teaching the kolache baking class.



Mar. 31



Submit on our website,
[here](#), or with the QR code
above by **March 31, 2026**
for a chance to become
March's picture of the
month winner!

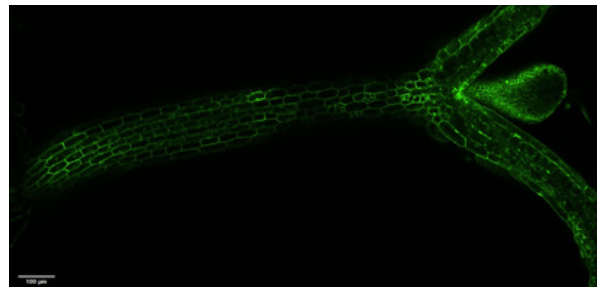
Picture of the Month

Submit an image taken with an MIC
instrument to be displayed on our
website and to win a **free MIC t-shirt!**

A 5 day-old Arabidopsis seedling
expressing cytosol-localized fluorescent
calcium probe GCaMP incubated in
50 μ M Gadolinium. The image was
acquired on the Nikon AXR laser
scanning confocal microscope with the
10X lens. Sample and image courtesy of
Ms. Cerrina Rodriguez from Dr. Larry
Griffing's Lab, Department of Biology.

February POM by
Cerrina Rodriguez

"Arabidopsis seedling
expressing GCaMP in gadolinium"



Contact: Dr. Sara Maynard

Upcoming Microscopy Conferences & Opportunities

May 31 - Jun. 6

MDI Biological
Laboratory

Bar Harbor, ME

Light Sheet Fluorescence Microscopy 2026



'Explore how LSFM is
reshaping biological imaging'

Aug. 31 - Sep. 4

Liverpool, UK

21st International Microscopy Congress & IFSM Young Scientist Assembly

'The Next Generation - Embracing the Responsible AI Revolution'



Sep. 27 - Oct. 2

Madison, WI

Imges 2 Knowledge x BioImaging North America's Congress 2026

'Cultivating the Multiscale Frontier'

