

**NHMFL User Policy Statement on
Confidentiality and Ethics**
(Adopted December 12/1/2008, revised October, 2015)

Confidentiality of Proposals for Magnet Time.

The NHMFL will treat all research proposals for magnet time as privileged confidential information in the same manner as proposals to the National Science Foundation. Principal Investigators with particular concerns about the confidentiality of their proposal need to contact the relevant User Program Director, facility director or the NHMFL Director to arrange a more confidential proposal review. The appropriate director or designee will discuss and agree in writing prior to proposal submission on the parameters for confidential proposal review and/or any special handling of subsequent experimental details and data. Please note that proposal titles will be published if magnet time is awarded.

Award of Magnet Time Based Upon Merit.

The awarding of magnet time at the NHMFL is based on the scientific and technological merits of the proposed research and the feasibility of the proposed experiment. The details of the proposal review process will vary by user program.

Confidentiality of Data within the Experimental Collaboration.

The NHMFL will maintain confidentiality of all data and scientific conclusions resulting from experiments at the NHMFL. Data and conclusions will not be disseminated by NHMFL personnel beyond the experimental collaboration without the explicit permission of the Principal Investigator, until released by the Principal Investigator through publication or posting in a public forum, such as a preprint server. Per NSF rules, annual reports describing the outcome of the experiments will be required from the PI for all experiments performed under the NHMFL user program. These reports will be publicly available; however, a delayed public release can be requested. In case of delayed release, the report still needs to be written by the original deadline and clearly marked for delayed release. Further information on data storage and dissemination can be found in our Data Management Plan.

Adherence to Professional Ethics Guidelines.

NHMFL personnel adhere to the ethics guidelines adopted by the American Physical Society: http://www.aps.org/policy/statements/02_2.cfm or those of similar professional organizations. The NHMFL expects its users to adhere to the same ethical guidelines, including the guidelines on co-authorship and clearance of manuscripts among all co-authors prior to submission for publication.

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