ALTERNATIVES FOR GENERAL ACCESS TO HIGH-END EQUIPMENT

• **THE PROBLEM:** The cost to purchase and maintain high-end equipment is getting greater and greater, and as a result fewer and fewer individual PIs can have access at their own institution.

• **THE QUESTION:** Are there financially sustainable models to meet the needs of PIs at institutions that cannot provide access to such equipment?

• **SOME ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS:**
  – HHMI-like (Janelia Farm) model. Fedex samples to an NIH/NSF-funded, central facility.
    • Monitor data acquisition from an emulator at your home institution.
    • Staffed to operate 24/7 when demand rises to that level
  – New generation, entry-level (affordable) microscope “model”.
    • Single voltage; top mag. = 50,000; simple cryo-holder
    • No energy filter
    • High-end silicon-pixel camera
    • Phase plate may be an option