

Rutgers University
Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) – North Campus
Meeting for NIH Guidelines Materials
Minutes of July 8, 2025

1. ATTENDEES

☒ Preeti Bharaj	☒ Bhupinder Singh	☒ Aimee Beaulieu – Co- Chair
☒ Theresa (LiYun) Chang	☒ Shaun Shahani	☒ Ryan McAllister - REHS
☐ Nancy Connell	☒ Lanbo Shi	☒ Brian Eggert - REHS
☒ Roberto Colangeli	☒ Jason Weinstein	☒ Blas Peixoto - REHS
☒ Carla Cugini	☒ Lai-Hua Xie	☒ Jacquelyn Vidal - REHS
☒ Dominic Del Re	☒ Amanda Hueting – Local Non-Affiliated	☒ Robert Adcock - REHS
☐ Jean-Pierre Etchegaray	☐ Michael Ricker – Local Non-Affiliated	☒ Sophia Cheng - REHS
☒ Yosuke Kumamoto	☐ Sonia Solano – Local Non-Affiliated	☐
☒ Deborah Lazzarino	☐ Jeetendra Eswaraka – Ex Officio	☐
☒ Latisha Moody	☐ Alejandro Ruiz – Ex Officio	☐
☒ Dane Parker	☐ Bryan Bocco – Ex Officio	☐
☒ Lidya Sanchez	☐	☐

2. MEETING LOGISTICS

CURRENT MEETING:		
Called to Order: 10:00 AM	Adjourned: 10:34 AM	Location: WebEx
PREVIOUS MEETING		
Minutes from May 13, 2025		Decision (17:0:2)^{1,2}
NEXT MEETING		
Date: September 9, 2025	Time: 10:00 AM	Location: WebEx

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Committee members with a conflict of interest related to the review of a specific registration may not be involved in the review or approval of a project in which he or she has been or expects to be engaged or has a direct financial interest.

3. PRE-AGENDA

TOPIC	SUMMARY
IBC Member Education - NIH Transparency Update	Communication received March 28, 2025 to maximize transparency aims of the NIH Guidelines on June 1st 2025: • The NIH OSP will publicly post the rosters of all active IBCs registered with OSP via the IBC-Registration Management System ○ These rosters will include all members identified by name and role on the committee ○ In addition, NIH will be posting the contact information for the: ▪ IBC Chair ▪ Biological Safety Officer ▪ IBC Contact • NIH expects that approved meeting minutes from all IBC meetings occurring on, or after this date will be posted publicly on an institutional website ○ NIH's expectation that minutes will be posted immediately after approval and once all appropriate and allowable redactions have been made. ○ Please note that the provisions of this memo only apply to meetings taking place on, or after June 1, 2025. Minutes from meetings before that date do not need to be posted but must be provided to members of the public upon request. Minutes must remain publicly available for 5 years
IBC Member Education - Minutes Update from June 2, 2025	NIH released a guideline PDF regarding the template for minutes which is now available in the FAQ section.
IBC Member Education - Rutgers IBC Updates	• Separating Committee Minutes: Recombinant from Non-Recombinant work ○ Separate agendas ○ Separate minutes • First public posting will be from the June IBC meeting in August (if approved) • Minutes – Gap Analysis Adjustments ○ Policy ▪ If the meeting is open/closed ▪ Submission summary ▪ Facilities: Acceptable, Correction Required, Audit Needed ▪ Training: In Place, Needed ○ Guidance Document “Should be documented” ▪ Hybrid seems acceptable

	▪ Example provided is similar to the BSO report summary but is for each NIH experimental category ▪ Member Expertise: BSO, virology, bacteriology ▪ Specifics of the • Risk Assessment • Training • OCH component
New Business - DURCom (aka) IRE Updates	• Meetings: 5/13/25 & 7/2/25 • Chair Appointed: Dr. Nancy Connell • https://ipo.rutgers.edu/rehs/bio-dual-use • DURC@research.rutgers.edu ○ Federal Outreach Related to DURC • NIH Notice – Gain of Function (GoF) Research ○ NIH is beginning to contact PIs regarding awards/projects identified as Dangerous GoF ▪ Termination of funding (for research conducted by foreign entities in countries of concern or foreign countries where there is not adequate oversight) ▪ Suspension of funding and other support (at least until new policy implementation) ▪ NIH will not accept requests for exemptions to termination or suspension (if deemed to meet Dangerous GoF definition) ○ NIH requests a response within 48 hours ○ REHS is working with partners within Rutgers ▪ Office for Research ▪ DURCom (aka IRE) ▪ General Counsel

PROTOCOL REVIEWS

The following protocols were reviewed according to the risk assessment guidelines published in the *NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules* and the CDC/NIH publication *Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories*. The risk assessment is documented in the REHS Biosafety Protocol Management System and includes a review of the engineering controls, work practices, safety training, and medical surveillance of project personnel. Individual protocols are evaluated on the following matters as appropriate: the proposed biosafety level and safety practices, agent characteristics, source and nature of agents or recombinant/synthetic nucleic acid sequences and resulting effects of expressed proteins, host animals/ cells, and cloning vectors to be used, and the type of manipulations planned.

Note: Protocols were not necessarily reviewed in the order they appear below.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVALS

PROTOCOL	PI	MATERIAL(S) OF INTEREST	BSL
13-072	Bunting	Renewal without changes	2
12-330	Koos	Renewal without changes	2
19-015	Etchegaray	Amendment to add personnel	2

15-052	Schaefer	Renewal without changes	1
15-002	Laumbach	Amendment to add another IRB protocol	2
13-086	Copeland	Renewal with minor changes	2
13-061	Liu, Fang	Renewal without changes	2
13-388	Liu, Fang	Renewal without changes	2
22-022	Hinrichs	Amendment to complete new Addendum K	2
20-026	Liu, Dongfang	Renewal without changes	3
19-017	Velliya Gounder	Renewal without changes	2
12-207	Boustany	Renewal without changes	2
13-532	Salgame	Renewal without changes	2
13-570	Roth, Monica	Renewal with minor changes	2
13-197	Rabson	Renewal with minor changes	2
16-044	Liu, Dongfang	Renewal with minor changes	2
20-048	Subbian	Renewal with minor changes	3

2. ADMINISTRATIVE TERMINATIONS

PROTOCOL	PI	TITLE OF PROTOCOL	EXPIRY DATE
None			

3. BIOSAFETY OFFICER REPORT (BSO) Approved (19:0:0) ¹

PROTOCOL	PI	TITLE & MATERIAL(S) OF INTEREST	BSL / GUIDELINES
12-322	Berthiaume, Francois	Title: Mesenchymal Stromal Cells to Enhance Chronic Wound Healing Submission Summary: The protocol covers evaluation of new biomaterials for skin wound healing. This amendment adds recombinant protein generation and administration to mice. The recombinant work is identical to the work approved in the PI's other biosafety protocol, IBC #17-056. The gene targets (elastin-like peptides, growth factors, chemokines), plasmid vector, and E.coli strains are all the same. Furthermore, administration of these proteins to mice is also approved in that protocol. Occupational Health: Not applicable Training: In Place BioAudit: Facilities are Acceptable	1 / III-D-4

4. AD HOC MEETING APPROVALS			
PROTOCOL	PI	MATERIAL(S) OF INTEREST	BSL / GUIDELINES
None			

5. NEW PROTOCOLS			
PROTOCOL	PI	TITLE & MATERIAL(S) OF INTEREST	BSL / GUIDELINES
None			

6. AMENDMENTS			
PROTOCOL	PI	TITLE & MATERIAL(S) OF INTEREST	BSL / GUIDELINES
20-020	Klein, Eric	Title: Bacterial sphingolipids Submission Summary: This laboratory investigates the role of microbial sphingolipids in bacterial pathogenesis. They are adding the construction of a mutation in <i>Caulobacter crescentus</i>, with insertional inactivation of <i>C. crescentus</i> already on the protocol. A screen identified <i>Acetobacter</i> species as a target of interest and they will construct mutants in sphingolipid synthesis genes. This organism is BSL1 and a normal member of the <i>Drosophila</i> microbiome. Occupational Health: Not Applicable Training: In Place BioAudit: Facilities are Acceptable IBC Vote: Decision (19:0:0)¹	1 / III-E

¹ Voting Decision (Yay: Nay: Abstain)

² Member(s) joined the meeting

³ Member(s) left the meeting