Institutional Biosafety Committee
October 2, 2026
12:00PM – 1:00PM
Teleconference

Minutes

Voting Members Present: Brian Taylor, Marianne Cloeren, Elizabeth Bramhall, Jennifer Johnson, John O'Neill, Irina Luzina, Matthew Frieman, Sherry Bohn, Robert Ernst, Jessie Duggan, Matthew Fischer

Voting Members Absent: Ami A. Patel, Karen Scanlon, Alan Schmaljohn, Ron McNeil, Melissa Morland, Anthony Kim, Janna Barcelo, Joseph Gillespie, Ciaran Skerry, Alfredo Garzino-Demo

Other Person(s) Present: No other persons were present at the meeting

Staff Present: Matthew Fischer, John O'Neill, Holda Ramos

1 Vote on Last Meeting's Minutes

Institutional Biosafety Committee meeting on 9/11/2026
Votes to approve minutes: 11, Disapprove: 0, Abstain: 0

2 New Business

This meeting of the IBC is open to the public pursuant to the NIH Guidelines, Section IV-B-2-a-(6).

- A joint task for between UMB and UMD College Park met to discuss the impacts of the DGOF and Draft NIH Policies.
    - Focus was mostly on the DGOF policy and the IRE requirements.
    - Comments are being collected on the Draft NIH Policy for a coordinated response through the Vice President of Research's Office.
- Our calendar for 2027 was developed. Meetings will remain on the first Friday of the month except for January, July, and September, when they must be moved to the second Friday to avoid proximity to holidays. Dates can be accessed on https://www.umaryland.edu/ehs/research-registration/institutional-biosafety-committee-ibc/ibc-calendar/.
- Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 6th.
- Member issues
    - ASM Maryland is hosting a technical seminar dinner meeting at UMBC entitled "Bacterial Adaptations When Antibiotic - Immunity Collaborations Fail" on October 14th

3 Reportable Incidents

- No reportable incidents occurred this month.

4 New IBC Submissions

Short Title:	IBC: Norovirus CVD 1000; mRNA-1403-P301
Investigator:	Matthew Laurens
ID:	IBC-00009040
Analyst:	Holda Ramos
VA-Related:	No
Discussion:	This protocol involves the use of an mRNA vaccine targeted against norovirus in healthy humans volunteers. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-C-1 and is approved using universal precautions.
Motion:	Approved
Vote:	For: 11, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

Short Title:	Experimental Therapeutics and Imaging Lab: Kotagiri
Investigator:	Nalinikanth Kotagiri
ID:	IBC-00009015
Analyst:	John O'Neill
VA-Related:	No
Discussion:	This protocol involves the use of lentiviral vectors in human and murine cells which will be used in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-1-a using BSL-2/ABSL-2 facilities and practices with sharps precautions. This protocol also involves the use of plasmids in human, murine, and canine cells which will be used in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a using BSL-2/ABSL-2 facilities and practices for work with human cells and BSL-1/ABSL-1 for work with murine and canine cells. This protocol also includes work with several species of Risk Group 1 and Risk Group 2 bacteria, influenza, and attenuated mycobacteria, some of which will be used in animals. The following modifications are required to secure approval: 1) State that no animal work will be conducted without an approved IACUC protocol; 2) Add cell lines names to the recombinant DNA table entry; 3) Add a pathogenicity statement for lentiviral vectors; 4) Add line breaks to improve readability; and 5) Remove qualifying language (e.g., “when appropriate”) from the risk assessment responses.
Motion:	RMSA
Vote:	For: 11, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

5 Modification Discussions

Short Title:	Viral Pathogenesis and Immunotherapy
Investigator:	Lishan Su
ID:	IBC-00005983
Analyst:	John O'Neill
VA-Related:	No

Discussion:	This modification involves the addition of a commercially available previously transfected human cell line, which will stably express HBV, that will be used in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-3-a and is approved using BSL-2 facilities and practices.
Motion:	Approve the Modification
Vote:	For: 11, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

Short Title:	Molecular and Functional Studies of Depression and Addiction on Brain
Investigator:	Mary Kay Lobo
ID:	IBC-00001687
Analyst:	Holda Ramos
VA-Related:	No
Discussion:	This modification involves the use of a recombinant AAV construct in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a and is approved using ABSL-1 facilities and practices.
Motion:	Approve the Modification
Vote:	For: 11, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

Short Title:	Lab assays to measure immune responses to pathogens and vaccines
Investigator:	Marcela Pasetti
ID:	IBC-00003017
Analyst:	Holda Ramos
VA-Related:	No
Discussion:	This protocol involves the use of recombinant Influenza A virus in chicken embryonated eggs. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-7 and is approved using BSL-2 facilities and practices.
Motion:	Approve the Modification
Vote:	For: 11, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

Short Title:	Animal models with increased RBC turnover
Investigator:	Elizabeth Rochon
ID:	IBC-00006924
Analyst:	John O'Neill
VA-Related:	No
Discussion:	This modification involves the use of a lentiviral vector in human cells *in vitro*. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-1-a and is approved using BSL-2 facilities and practices with sharps precautions.
Motion:	Approve the Modification
Vote:	For: 11, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

6 RMSA Follow-Up

Short Title: Engineering Plasmodium parasites to study malaria biology and host responses
Investigator: Hardik Patel
ID: IBC-00008704
Analyst: Holda Ramos
VA-Related: No
Discussion: This modification involves the use of plasmids in *Plasmodium yoelii* which will be used in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a and is approved using BSL-1/ABSL-1 facilities and practices. The following modifications were made to secure approval: 1) Updated personnel, 2) Clarified species of plasmodium being used in the study in the infectious microorganism table, and 3) Updated the NIH guidelines applicable to the research.
Status: Approved

Short Title: Molecular and Functional Studies of Depression and Addiction on Brain
Investigator: Mary Kay Lobo
ID: IBC-00001687
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: No
Discussion: This modification involves the use of recombinant AAV in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a and is approved using ABSL-1 facilities and practices. The following modifications were made to secure approval: 1) Updated personnel and 2) Updated IACUC information.
Status: Approved

Short Title: Screening of BSL2 viruses with anti-viral compounds
Investigator: Matthew Frieman
ID: IBC-00002948
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: No
Discussion: This modification involves the use of replication-competent VSV in mammalian cells and animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-3-a and is approved using BSL-2/ABSL-2 facilities and practices. This modification also involves the use of plasmids in mammalian cells. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-F-8 Appendix C-1 and is approved using BSL-2 facilities and practices. The following modifications were made to secure approval: 1) Updated personnel; 2) Updated IACUC information; and 3) Uploaded a document that explains the change in tropism for VSV.
Status: Approved

Short Title: Molecular and neural circuit basis of craniofacial pain

Investigator: Man-Kyo Chung
ID: IBC-00001592
Analyst: Holda Ramos
VA-Related: No
Discussion: This modification involves the addition of two recombinant AAV constructs which will be used in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a using ABSL-1 facilities and practices. The following modifications were made to secure approval: 1) Confirmed personnel and 2) Updated IACUC information.
Status: Approved

7 Periodic Reviews of Protocols with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules

Short Title: Iron homeostasis of environmental Pseudomonads
Investigator: Amanda Oglesby
ID: IBC-00004194
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: No
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

Short Title: Suppressing oncogenic RNA regulons using engineered zinc finger ribonucleases
Investigator: Gerald Wilson
ID: IBC-00005806
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: No
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

Short Title: Role of pertussis toxin in Bordetella pertussis infection
Investigator: Nicholas Carbonetti
ID: IBC-00000427
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: No
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

Short Title: Rickettsia cell envelope glycoconjugates are derived from the host cell amino sugar biosynthesis pathway
Investigator: Joseph Gillespie
ID: IBC-00005814
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: No
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

Short Title: Roles of the tumor suppressor tristetraprolin in cancer cell progression

Investigator: Gerald Wilson
ID: IBC-00000046
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: No
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

Short Title: Iron homeostasis of bacterial pathogens
Investigator: Amanda Oglesby
ID: IBC-00001885
Analyst: Holda Ramos
VA-Related: No
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

Short Title: Development of Small Molecules for Cancer Therapy
Investigator: Vincent Njar
ID: IBC-00002284
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: No
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

Short Title: Mechanisms of Regulatory T Cell Function in Mouse Models of Tumor and Transplantation
Investigator: Xuefang Cao
ID: IBC-00004347
Analyst: Holda Ramos
VA-Related: No
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

Short Title: Anti-arthritic activity and therapeutic use of novel joint-homing peptides
Investigator: Kamal Moudgil
ID: IBC-00004428
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: Yes
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

Short Title: Therapeutic applications of focused ultrasound
Investigator: Pavlos Anastasiadis
ID: IBC-00008237
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: No
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

Short Title: CRISPR Knockout of Fructose Metabolism
Investigator: Sui Seng Tee
ID: IBC-00006106
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: No
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

Short Title: Tumor Immunotherapy and the mechanisms of Immunotherapy related adverse events
Investigator: Yin Wang
ID: IBC-00004512
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: No
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

Short Title: Development of an In Vitro Cell Culture Model System of the Vagina to Study Microbiome Interactions
Investigator: Jacques Ravel
ID: IBC-00000967
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: No
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for a change in personnel.

Short Title: Immunopathogenesis of Infectious Diseases
Investigator: Joao Pedra
ID: IBC-00002247
Analyst: Holda Ramos
VA-Related: No
Discussion: This protocol has been administratively approved for the use of *Arachnia propionica* using ABSL-2 facility and practices.

Short Title: Long-term Inhibition of HIV transcription by targeting cellular CDK9 in vivo
Investigator: Alonso Heredia
ID: IBC-00003501
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: No
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for a change in personnel.

Short Title: Role of TLR4 signaling in Innate and Adaptive Responses to pathogens
Investigator: Stefanie Vogel
ID: IBC-00001187
Analyst: Holda Ramos
VA-Related: No

Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for changers in personnel.

Short Title: Functional study of ubiquilin
Investigator: Mervyn Monteiro
ID: IBC-00000408
Analyst: Holda Ramos
VA-Related: No
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for changes in personnel.

Short Title: Mechanisms of synaptic physiology and neurodegenerative diseases
Investigator: Leonardo Parra-Rivas
ID: IBC-00008690
Analyst: Holda Ramos
VA-Related: No
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for changes in personnel.

Short Title: Periodontal Disease Pathogenesis and Periodontal Tissue Development/Regeneration
Investigator: Vivek Thumbigere Math
ID: IBC-00004488
Analyst: John O'Neill
VA-Related: No
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for work with human blood and stool specimens using BSL-2 facilities and practices.

Short Title: Role of Drug Transporters in Xenobiotic Disposition and Transporter Physiology
Investigator: Yan Shu
ID: IBC-00000213
Analyst: Holda Ramos
VA-Related: No
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for changes in personnel.

Short Title: Periodontal Disease Pathogenesis and Periodontal Tissue Development/Regeneration
Investigator: Vivek Thumbigere Math
ID: IBC-00004488
Analyst: Holda Ramos
VA-Related: No
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for changes in personnel.

Short Title: Molecular Mechanisms Controlling GBM Cancer Stem Cells Growth and Survival
Investigator: Eli Bar
ID: IBC-00005197
Analyst: John O'Neill

VA-Related: No
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

Short Title: Chlamydia Pathogenesis
Investigator: Jacques Ravel
ID: IBC-00000978
Analyst: Holda Ramos
VA-Related: No
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for a change in personnel.