

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE
IBC Meeting Minutes- Online Meeting
July 21, 2026 12:00 pm

Members

X	Bradley, Carlos- Community Member
X	Culmer-Butler, Dr. Dorian- Animal Containment Expert
	Escalante, Dr. Ananias- Scientist
X	Forste, Dr. Dawn- Animal Containment Expert
X	Gallo, Dr. Gianluca- Scientist
X	Ladman, Dr. Brian- Community Member
X	Lupinski, Gregory- EHRS Executive Director
X	Mobo, Dr. Ben Hur Jr.- Occupational Health Administrator
X	Moore, Claudia- IACUC Asst. Director
X	Murray, Krista- IBC Assistant Director
X	Pultro, Mary- IBC Sr. Coordinator
X	Sariyer, Dr. Ilker- IBC Vice-Chair, Scientist
X	Sawaya, Dr. Bassel- Scientist
X	Sulistijo, Dr. Endah- University Biosafety Officer
X	Tsygankov, Dr. Alexander- IBC Chair, Scientist
X	Whelan, Dr. Kelly- Scientist
X	Wimmer, Dr. Mathieu- Scientist

X= Present

Quorum was met for this meeting.
All decisions were unanimous.

Guests

Hao, Lanping- Associate Health & Safety Specialist
Khan, Sabina- Senior Health & Safety Specialist
Kidder, Abigail- IACUC Analyst
Slupianek, Dr. Artur- Senior Director of Research Regulatory Affairs
Wright, Simone- IBC Analyst

I. Announcements
None

II. Other Business
Ms. Murray provided a training session for the IBC members on the NIH Guidelines. This was based on the responses to the self-assessment the committee is completing.

III. Minutes Reviewed
Minutes from the June 16, 2026 meeting were reviewed. The motion to approve the minutes was made and approved unanimously.

IV. Protocols Reviewed

PI: Sawaya, Bassel	Reg: 11374	Activity: 6 Year Rewrite	NIH: III-E-1	BSL: 2
Title: A Comparative Study of COVID-19 Proteins Between Lung, Heart and Neuronal Cells				
Overview: Using lung, heart and neuronal cells, the lab will examine the role of viral proteins responsible for causing cell deregulation and inflammation and determine the protein(s) involved.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. Clarify staff on protocol; use or storage of viruses; some administrative edits. NOTE: Dr. Sawaya recused himself and left the call during the discussion of his protocol.				
Final Action: modifications required				

PI: Tuzel, Erkan	Reg.: 11373	Activity: 6 Year Rewrite	NIH: III-E-1	BSL: 1
Title: Cellular Biomechanics Lab				
Overview: Conduct of experiments by imaging reconstitution methods with purified, fluorescently labeled proteins on scaffolds in vitro.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. Clarify paclitaxel procedures; some administrative modifications required.				
Final Action: modifications required				

PI: Gang Li, Rich	Reg.: 11376	Activity: New BRF	NIH: III-D-2, 3, 4; III-E-1, 3	BSL: 2
Title: Cardiac Renewal Through the Manipulation of the Microenvironment				
Overview: Seeking to understand cross talk between fibroblasts, immune cells, and cardiomyocytes following ischemic heart injury and determine if various genes and molecular pathways can be manipulated to enhance repair or limit adverse remodeling.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. Administrative modifications. Need EHRS inspection of lab. Need tamoxifen SOPs and room clarifications.				
Final Action: modifications required				

PI: Wang, Ross	Reg.: 11111	Activity: Amendment	NIH: III-D-4	BSL: 2
Title: I. Chemical Probes to Identify Key Proteins in Human Cells that Mediate Cancer, Neuron or Inflammatory Diseases. II. Invention of Peptides or Protein Conjugates for Protein-Protein Interactions				
Overview: Addition of plasmids for cell culture work to knock down or express human proteins.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. Clarify work to be completed at FCCC and how samples will be transported between TU and FCCC.				
Final Action: modifications required				

PI: Kutlu, Munir	Reg.: 11240	Activity: Amendment	NIH: III-D-4	BSL: 1
Title: Predicting Maladaptive Aversive Learning via Computational Modeling of Insular Single-Cell Ensemble Activity Patterns				
Overview: Addition of AAV plasmids for stereotaxic injections.				

Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices.
Final Action: approved

PI: Smith, George	Reg.: 10890	Activity: Amendment	NIH: III-D-2, 3, 4; III-E-1	BSL: 2
Title: Role of Mitochondrial Fragmentation in Axonal Regeneration After SCI, Mechanisms for Recovery of Skilled Forelimb Function in Neonatal Rats, Enhancing Propriospinal Relays to Improve Functional Recovery After SCI, STAT3 Expression Prevents Neurodegeneration in Hemi-Parkinson's Model				
Overview: Addition of plasmid in vivo for optogenetic inhibition and activation.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices.				
Final Action: approved				

PI: Rothberg, Brad	Reg.: 11336	Activity: Amendment	NIH: III-E-1	BSL: 2+
Title: Ion Channel Regulation of ATP Homeostasis in Mycobacteria				
Overview: Addition of a highly attenuated mycobacterial strain.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices.				
Final Action: approved				

PI: Estaras, Concepcion	Reg.: 11281	Activity: Amendment	NIH: III-D-1; III-E-1	BSL: 2
Title: The Role of YAP1 and Embryonic Signaling Pathways in Early Development				
Overview: Addition of non-viral fluorescent expression plasmids for in vitro visualization.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices.				
Final Action: approved				

PI: Pal, Ajay	Reg.: 11074	Activity: Amendment	NIH: III-D-2, 4; III-E-1	BSL: 2
Title: Harnessing Spinal Cord Associative Plasticity to Improve Functional Recovery After Spinal Cord Injury				
Overview: Addition of AAV vectors for stereotaxic injections.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices.				
Final Action: approved				

V. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn the meeting was approved unanimously; the meeting adjourned at 1:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Murray

Krista Murray
Institutional Biosafety Committee Assistant Director