



**Office of the Vice President
for Research**

Institutional Biosafety Committee

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TEMPLE UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE
IBC Meeting Minutes- Online Meeting
August 19, 2025 12:03 pm

Members

	Black, Dr. Mark- Community Member
	Bradley, Carlos- Community Member
X	Culmer-Butler, Dr. Dorian- Animal Containment Expert
X	Escalante, Dr. Ananias- Scientist
X	Forste, Dr. Dawn- Animal Containment Expert
X	Lupinski, Gregory- EHRS Executive Director
X	Mettus, Richard- Senior Health & Safety Specialist
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
	Sawaya, Dr. Bassel- Scientist
X	Sulistijo, Dr. Endah- University Biosafety Officer
	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

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

I. Announcements

Ms. Murray reminded the IBC members to complete the CITI IBC Membership training online.

II. Other Business

None

III. Minutes Reviewed

Minutes from the July 15, 2025 meeting were reviewed. The motion to approve the minutes was made and approved unanimously.

IV. Protocols Reviewed

PI: Yuan, Heyang	Reg: 11297	Activity: 6-year renewal	NIH: III-E-1	BSL: 2
Title: Environmental Biotechnologies for Water/Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery				
Overview: Untreated wastewater and sewage sludge will be added to a bioreactor. Genomic DNA of the biomass will be amplified, sequenced, and certain functional genes will be quantified.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. Procedures were previously approved.				
Final Action: approved				

PI: Zhou, Zhengjie	Reg.: 11294	Activity: Initial BRF	NIH: III-D-4	BSL: 2
Title: Precision Nanomedicine Targeting Pulmonary Inflammatory Mechanisms				
Overview: Cell-specific mRNA delivery systems using engineered lipid nanoparticle to directly target dysfunctional pulmonary endothelium and epithelium in acute lung injury and acute respiratory distress syndrome. Will utilize H1N1 and LPS.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. Need to confirm the rooms to be used. Will need inspection by EHRS to obtain approval for the purchase of H1N1 from BEI/permit to obtain it. Need to clarify training dates and biosafety level for various agents. Occupational health recommends annual flu shot for personnel.				
Final Action: modifications required				

PI: Sebastian, Robin	Reg.: 11299	Activity: Initial BRF	NIH: III-D-1	BSL: 2
Title: Elucidating Mechanisms of Genome Stability During DNA Replication				
Overview: Define double-strand break-induced control of chromatin binding of the TIMELESS-TIPIN complex and elucidate functions of the complex in nucleolus and mitochondria				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. Some information is missing because they are a new faculty member who doesn't have room numbers yet. Need additional information in order to evaluate proposal, such as sequences for the targets, disposal of drugs. Dr. Whelan offered to assist Dr. Sebastian with the submission since this is their first IBC submission.				
Final Action: deferred				

PI: Perez, Oscar	Reg.: 11300	Activity: Initial BRF	NIH: III-E-1	BSL: 2
Title: A Polycistronic Expression System for Hepatocyte-to-Beta Cell Transdifferentiation for Treating Type 1 Diabetes				
Overview: Molecular cloning, bacterial transformation for DNA production, and mammalian cell culture electroporation/transfection using mouse and human hepatocyte cell types and rat pancreatic cells.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices.				
Final Action: approved				

PI: Garikipati, Venkata	Reg.: 11162	Activity: Amendment	NIH: III-D-1, 4	BSL: 2
Title: Role of Non-Coding RNAs in Cardiovascular Disease				
Overview: Adding commercially synthesized adenoviruses and AAVs for in vitro and in vivo experiments. Purchasing a new mouse strain generated by CRISPR/Cas technology.				

Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. Clarify the genes of interest for the AAV vectors and specify whether they are purchasing ready to use or packaging themselves. Clarify whether the mouse strains are already generated, or generating in lab. An import form may be needed for the animals.
Final Action: modifications required

PI: Smith, George	Reg.: 10890	Activity: Amendment	NIH: III-D-2, 3, 4	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: Add plasmids and AAV serotypes to potentially be used.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. Please clarify how these will be utilized and if it will be in vivo or in vitro?				
Final Action: modifications required				

PI: Smith, George	Reg.: 10890	Activity: Amendment	NIH: III-D-2, 3, 4	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 genetically modified rat line and use of tamoxifen to drive CreR activation.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. Correct room numbers.				
Final Action: modifications required				

PI: Rajadhyaksha, Anjali	Reg.: 11172	Activity: Amendment	NIH: III-D-4; III-E-3	BSL: 1
Title: The Neurobiological and Neurocircuitry Effects of Drugs of Abuse; Mouse Breeding Protocol				
Overview: Addition of AAVs to protocol to stereotactically inject in mouse brains for behavioral analyses.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. List source of AAV vectors. Clarify whether they will be purchased already packaged or clone themselves. Clarify whether there will be any in vitro work with them before the injections.				
Final Action: modifications required				

PI: Wang, Ross	Reg.: 11111	Activity: Amendment	NIH: III-D-4	BSL: 1
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 protein expression in vitro work in mammalian cells.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. Use in procedures as previously approved.				
Final Action: approved				

PI: Giovanniello, Jacqueline	Reg.: 11204	Activity: Amendment	NIH: III-D-4; III-E-3	BSL: 1
Title: Revealing the Neural Mechanisms of Striatal Control of Stress-Induced Habits in 16p11.2 Microdeletion Mice				
Overview: Additional AAV plasmid to retrogradely label amygdala neurons in the mouse brain.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. Use in procedures as previously approved.				
Final Action: approved				

PI: Kutlu, Munir	Reg.: 11240	Activity: Amendment	NIH: III-D-4	BSL: 1
Title: Predicting Maladaptive Aversive Learning via Computational Modelling of Insular Single-Cell Ensemble Activity Patterns				
Overview: Addition of AAVs for injection into brain during stereotaxic implant surgery. Addition of GLP-1 agonists for in vivo work, and additional mouse lines.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. Clarify source of AAV vectors. Describe mouse lines. Clarify the BSL1 tumor cells are mouse origin and not human source.				
Final Action: modifications required				

PI: Kaminski, Rafal	Reg.: 11250	Activity: Amendment	NIH: III-D-1, 2, 3	BSL: 2+
Title: Developing and Validating CRISPR-Based Anti-Viral Approaches				
Overview: Add new procedures to test the effects of spirologomer construct on HSV-1 and HIV-1.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices.				
Final Action: approved				

PI: Sharma, Pawan	Reg.: 11221	Activity: Annual Renewal	NIH: III-D-1, 3; III-E-1,3	BSL: 2
Title: E3 Ubiquitin Ligase RNF145 in Airway Smooth Muscle Functions and in Asthma				
Overview: Additional mammalian plasmids for lentiviral packaging and amplification in HEK293T and E. coli DH5a cells.				
Discussion: The IBC reviewed the procedures, containment level, facilities to be used, lab member training, containment procedures and work practices. Since these are mammalian plasmids, not lentiviral, what will they do to use them in lentivirus? Clarify whether this will be done by the lab or if a vendor will do it.				
Final Action: modifications required				

V. Old Business
None

VI. New Business
None

VII. Adjournment
The motion to adjourn the meeting was approved unanimously; the meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Murray

Krista Murray
Institutional Biosafety Committee Assistant Director