



INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom

- Members Present:**
1. Lesley Colby, Comparative Medicine (*Animal Containment Expert*)
 2. Lesley Decker, Environmental Health & Safety (*Biosafety Officer*)
 3. Erin Heiniger, Department of Bioengineering (*Laboratory Specialist*)
 4. Richard Grant, Washington National Primate Research Center
 5. Kevin Hybiske, Allergy and Infectious Diseases (*IBC Vice Chair*)
 6. Jennifer Iwamoto, Office of Animal Welfare (*Animal Containment Expert*)
 7. David Koelle, Allergy and Infectious Diseases
 8. Scott Meschke, Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences
 9. Susan Parazzoli (*Community Member*)
 10. Jason Smith, Microbiology (*IBC Chair*)
 11. Paul Swenson, Seattle-King Co. Dept. of Public Health (*Community Member*)
 12. Ana Weil, Allergy and Infectious Diseases

Commonly Used Abbreviations

AAV: adeno-associated viral vector

BBP: bloodborne pathogens

BSL: biosafety level

BSL-2w/3: BSL-2 with BSL-3 practices

BSO: biosafety officer

BUA: Biological Use Authorization

DURC: Dual Use Research of Concern

IACUC: Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

IBC: Institutional Biosafety Committee

iPSCs: induced pluripotent stem cells

NHP: non-human primate

NIH: National Institutes of Health

PI: Principal Investigator

rDNA: recombinant or synthetic DNA/RNA

RG: Risk Group

SOP: standard operating procedure

Source material: blood, tissue, body fluids, and cell lines

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) Chair called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. A quorum was present.
2. **REMINDER:** The IBC Chair reminded attendees that any notes that they retain are subject to public disclosure. A statement was also made about conflict of interest and voting on research proposals as described in the IBC Charter. This includes sharing a grant or a familial relationship. The EH&S Biosafety Manager shared updates from the NIH to modernize and strengthen biosafety oversight. New guidance is not to replace the NIH Guidelines, but to cover other areas. There will be opportunities for public engagement in the coming year.
3. **BUA AND INSPECTION METRICS PRESENTATION:**
 - Members of the biosafety team presented on fiscal year 2025 metrics related to BUAs reviewed by the IBC, incident reports, biohazardous waste audits, and biosafety lab inspections and inspection findings trends.
4. **2025 IBC CHARTER REVIEW:**
 - The IBC coordinator presented updates made to the IBC Charter including removal of references to the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA), changes in language related to DURC policies, and references to local regulations. The coordinator also highlighted that although the IBC is no longer subject to the OPMA, the meeting will remain open to the public as recommended by the NIH Guidelines.
 - A member made a motion to approve the 2025 IBC Charter. Another member seconded the motion.
 - The committee voted unanimously to approve the 2025 IBC Charter.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - The IBC Chair sought a motion to approve the minutes from the August 20, 2025, meeting.
 - A member made a motion to approve the August 20, 2025, meeting minutes. Another member seconded the motion.
 - The committee voted unanimously to approve the August 20, 2025, meeting minutes.
6. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - At the August 20, 2025 meeting, Dr. Chao's BUA was approved pending successful completion of the lab inspection. This BUA has been sent.
 - At the August 20, 2025 meeting, Dr. Fuller's (020) BUA was approved pending further occupational health review and implementation. This BUA has been sent.
 - At the August 20, 2025 meeting, Dr. King's BUA was approved pending successful completion of the lab inspection. This BUA has been sent.
 - At the August 20, 2025 meeting, Dr. Koelle's BUA was approved pending submission and review of the IACUC protocol. This BUA has been sent.
 - At the August 20, 2025 meeting, Dr. Kong's BUA was approved pending submission and review of the IACUC protocol. This BUA is still pending.
 - At the August 20, 2025 meeting, Dr. Park's BUA was approved pending successful completion of the lab inspection and submission and review of the IACUC protocol. This BUA is still pending.

- At the August 20, 2025 meeting, Dr. Poolos's BUA was approved pending successful completion of the lab inspection, completion of lab training, and submission and review of the IACUC protocol. This BUA is still pending.
- At the August 20, 2025 meeting, Dr. Veessler's BUA was approved pending successful completion of the lab inspection. This BUA has been sent.
- At the August 20, 2025 meeting, Dr. Shah's BUA was approved pending review of the IACUC protocol. This BUA has been sent.
- At the August 20, 2025 meeting, Dr. Venur's BUA was approved pending clarification of reviewer questions. This BUA has been sent.

7. BIOSAFETY OFFICER (BSO) REPORT: The Biosafety Officer Report includes projects involving: (1) recombinant or synthetic nucleic acids covered under Sections III-E and III-F of the *NIH Guidelines*, (2) non-recombinant biological agents requiring BSL-2 with BSL-3 practices containment or lower, and (3) administrative updates, such as room additions.

a. Biosafety Officer Report

- Dr. Vojtech renewed work with human source material and NHP source material, rDNA, Chlamydia trachomatis, herpes simplex virus 2 (HSV-2), Neisseria gonorrhoeae on the BUA *Mechanisms of STI transmission*. (Section III-E and III-F)
- Dr. Doherty renewed work with Epstein-Barr virus, human and NHP source material, and E. coli on the BUA *Joubert Syndrome and Related Disorders*. (Section III-E and III-F)
- Dr. Pepple initiated work with human source material on the BUA *AIREADI human samples*.
- Dr. Chatterjee renewed work with E. coli, rDNA, and human source material on the BUA *Histone SUMOylation and p53 Modification*. (Section III-E and III-F)
- Dr. Ho renewed work with human source material in vitro and in mice on the BUA *Mechanisms of Targeting Drugs to the Lymphatics*.
- Dr. Weiss added a new room for study product preparation on the BUA *A RANDOMIZED, DOUBLE-BLIND, PLACEBO-CONTROLLED PHASE 3 TRIAL OF DESCARTES-08 IN PATIENTS WITH GENERALIZED MYASTHENIA GRAVIS (MG)*.
- Dr. Kiem added virus-like particles for gene delivery in macaques on the BUA *In Vivo Gene Therapy*. This work was previously approved for this PI on a different BUA at the May 2025 IBC meeting. (Section III-D)
- Dr. Greenberg added work with wild type Afipia broomeae, Afipia felis, Serratia odorifera, and Sphingomonas yanoikuyae on the BUA *Quorum Sensing in Burkholderia mallei*.
- Dr. Tian initiated work with human source material in vitro and in mice on the BUA *Energetics and Metabolism of the Heart*.
- Dr. Grant added work with E. coli in previously approved spaces on the BUA *Primate Diagnostic Services Laboratories*.
- Dr. Fields renewed work with Saccharomyces cerevisiae, E. coli, and rDNA in vitro on the BUA *Development of Protein and Nucleic Acid Technologies*. (Section III-F)
- Dr. Bitto updated rooms for use of previously approved agents on the BUA *Pharmacological approaches to aging and mitochondrial disease*.
- Dr. Derdeyn updated room for use of previously approved agents on the BUA *Virus neutralization, diversity, and B cell immunology*.
- Dr. Derdeyn added work with cells pre-approved by EH&S and the IBC requiring BSL-2w/3 practices on the BUA *Flow Cytometry Cost Center*.

- Dr. Levy added bovine herpesvirus 1, bovine parainfluenza 3, and bovine respiratory syncytial virus on the BUA *Levy Research Group: ChEEP ChEEP, EcoMiD, EcoZUR, PAASIM*.
- Dr. O'Connor added use of a core facility on the BUA *Emerging infectious diseases and SIV co-infections*.
- Dr. Cosgrove Sweeney took over work previously overseen by Dr. Patton on the BUA *Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention - Primate Unit*.
- Dr. Fuhrmeister renewed work with rDNA, E. coli, bacteriophage, Campylobacter jejuni, Candida trachomatis, Chlamydia trachomatis, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Pseudomonas syringae, Streptococcus pneumoniae, and Treponema pallidum on the BUA *Environmental Reservoirs of Enteric Pathogens and Antimicrobial Resistance*. (Section III-F)
- Dr. Altemeier lowered the in vitro biosafety level for SARS-CoV-2 from BSL-3 to BSL-2 and added the use of a new space with previously approved agents on the BUA *Inflammation, injury and resolution in lung pathobiology*.
- Dr. Portuguese took over work previously overseen by Dr. Cowan on the BUA *A Phase 3 Randomized Study Comparing Daratumumab, Bortezomib, Lenalidomide and Dexamethasone (DVRd) followed by Ciltacabtagene Autoleucel versus Daratumumab, Bortezomib, Lenalidomide and Dexamethasone (DVRd) followed by Autologous Stem Cell Transplant (ASCT) in Participants with Newly Diagnosed Multiple Myeloma who are Transplant Eligible*.
- Dr. Hofstetter added new rooms for work with previously approved agents on the BUA *Viral Neuronal Tracing in Rodents with Spinal Cord Injury*.
- Dr. Treger initiated work with human source material and rDNA on the BUA *Serologic Biomarkers of Immune-Related Diseases*.
- The IBC Chair a motion to approve this month's Biosafety Officer Report.
- A member made a motion to approve this month's Biosafety Officer Report. Another member seconded the motion.
- The Committee unanimously voted to approve this month's Biosafety Officer Report, with three recusals.

8. INDIVIDUAL PROJECT REVIEWS

- a. Ferguson, Susan, renewal, *Brain circuits that regulate drug use and addiction*
 - NIH Guidelines Sections III-D
 - The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review.
 - The Ferguson lab studies brain circuits in rats.
 - The lab works with avian pseudotyped rabies viral vectors in rats at BSL-2 and with AAV and CAV-2 in rats at BSL-1.
 - A lab inspection was not required as all work takes place inside a vivarium.
 - All required trainings are complete.
 - The IACUC protocol is still pending.
 - The draft BUA letter was shown.
 - The IBC Primary Reviewer made a motion to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Ferguson.
 - The Committee voted unanimously to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Ferguson, pending submission and review of the IACUC protocol.

- b. Geng, Yijie, renewal, *The molecular basis of social behavior*
- NIH Guidelines Sections III-D and III-F
 - The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review.
 - The Geng lab studies environmental and genetic effects on regulating social behavior in zebrafish and mouse models.
 - The lab works with human source material in vitro at BSL-2 and with lentiviral vectors in transgenic zebrafish, E. coli, and rDNA in vitro at BSL-1.
 - The lab inspection is scheduled for after the IBC meeting.
 - All required trainings are complete.
 - The IACUC protocol is still pending.
 - The draft BUA letter was shown.
 - The IBC Primary Reviewer made a motion to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Geng.
 - The Committee voted unanimously to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Geng, pending successful completion of the lab inspection and submission and review of the IACUC protocol.
- c. Hawkins, R. David, renewal, *Epigenomics of various stem cells*
- NIH Guidelines Sections III-D, III-E, and III-F
 - The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review.
 - The Hawkins lab studies epigenetic regulation of stem cells using human, mouse, and NHP source material.
 - The lab works with human and NHP source material in vitro at BSL-2 and with E. coli, rDNA, and lentiviral vectors in vitro at BSL-1.
 - A lab inspection has been performed and is still pending a response.
 - All required trainings are complete.
 - The draft BUA letter was shown.
 - The IBC Primary Reviewer made a motion to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Hawkins.
 - The Committee voted unanimously to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Hawkins, pending successful completion of the lab inspection.
- d. Kong, Jennifer, new, *Designing and Testing a Mini-Binder for Exotoxin-A, a virulence factor released by the Type II Secretion System in Pseudomonas Aeruginosa*
- NIH Guidelines Sections III-D and III-F
 - The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review.
 - The Kong lab oversees the iGEM undergraduate student project with the aim to create a custom-designed mini protein that blocks a toxin produced by P. aeruginosa.
 - The lab works with human source material and exotoxin A in vitro at BSL-2 and with E. coli (used for cloning truncated exotoxin A) and rDNA in vitro at BSL-1.
 - The lab inspection is scheduled for after the IBC meeting.
 - All required trainings are complete.
 - The draft BUA letter was shown.
 - The IBC Primary Reviewer made a motion to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Kong.
 - The Committee voted unanimously to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Kong, pending successful completion of the lab inspection and edits to application.
- e. Meschke, Scott, change, *Detection and Characterization of Pathogens in Environmental Media*

- NIH Guidelines Sections III-D
 - The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review.
 - The Meschke lab is adding work with recombinant oral polio vaccine (nOPV1) in vitro. The recombinant changes help to make the vaccine more genetically stable.
 - A lab inspection was not required as the lab was recently inspected.
 - All required trainings are complete.
 - The draft BUA letter was shown.
 - The IBC Primary Reviewer made a motion to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Meschke.
 - The Committee voted unanimously to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Meschke, with one recusal.
- f. Ngodup, Tenzin, new, *Neurons and neural circuitry*
- NIH Guidelines Section III-D
 - The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review.
 - The Ngodup lab studies how brain processes sound and what happens when these processes break down to help develop new therapeutic targets to address auditory disorders.
 - The lab works with AAV in mice at ABSL-1.
 - The lab was inspected, and all deficiencies have been corrected.
 - All required trainings are complete.
 - This project has an IACUC protocol in review.
 - The draft BUA letter was shown.
 - The IBC Primary Reviewer made a motion to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Ngodup.
 - The Committee voted unanimously to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Ngodup.
- g. Pepple, Kathryn, renewal, *The role of the innate and adaptive immune system in a novel model of uveitis*
- NIH Guidelines Section III-D
 - The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review.
 - The Pepple lab studies mechanisms of ocular inflammation causing vision loss and blindness to develop treatments for patients.
 - The lab works with AAV in mice and in vitro at BSL-1.
 - The lab was inspected, and all deficiencies have been corrected.
 - All required trainings are complete.
 - There are occupational health requirements for work with Bordetella pertussis toxin.
 - The IACUC protocol is still pending.
 - The draft BUA letter was shown.
 - The IBC Primary Reviewer made a motion to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Pepple.
 - The Committee voted unanimously to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Pepple, pending submission and review of the IACUC protocol.
- h. Wakimoto, Barbara, renewal, *Developmental Genetic Analysis of Fertilization Pathways in Drosophila*
- NIH Guidelines Sections III-D and III-F
 - The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review.

- The Wakimoto lab aims to identify the genetic and molecular pathways essential for sperm development and functioning during fertilization in a *Drosophila melanogaster* model.
 - The lab works with transgenic *Drosophila* and with *E. coli*, and rDNA in vitro at BSL-1.
 - The lab inspection is scheduled for after the IBC meeting.
 - All required trainings are complete.
 - The draft BUA letter was shown.
 - The IBC Primary Reviewer made a motion to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Wakimoto.
 - The Committee voted unanimously to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Wakimoto, pending successful completion of the lab inspection.
- i. Zagotta, William N., renewal, *Gating Mechanisms of Ion Channels*
- NIH Guidelines Sections III-D, III-E and III-F
 - The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review.
 - The Zagotta lab investigates molecular mechanisms of ion channel function.
 - The lab works with human source material in vitro at BSL-2 and with baculoviral vectors, *E. coli*, and rDNA in vitro at BSL-1.
 - A lab inspection has been performed and is still pending a response.
 - All required trainings are complete.
 - The draft BUA letter was shown.
 - The IBC Primary Reviewer made a motion to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Zagotta.
 - The Committee voted unanimously to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Zagotta, pending successful completion of the lab inspection.

9. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

- j. Seshadri, Chetan, renewal, *Immune Profiling in Infectious Diseases*
- NIH Guidelines NIH Guidelines Sections III-D, III-E and III-F
 - Four members of the IBC served as the Subcommittee Reviewers. One of the Subcommittee Reviewers presented the Subcommittee Report.
 - The Seshadri lab investigates the generic, molecular, cellular, and immunologic mechanisms of infectious disease pathogenesis.
 - The lab works with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in vitro at BSL-3 and with lentiviral vectors, human and NHP source material, Epstein-Barr virus, RG 2 *Mycobacterium* species, and attenuated *M. tuberculosis* strains in vitro at BSL-2. They also work with *E. coli* and rDNA in vitro at BSL-1.
 - BSL-3 labs are inspected quarterly and not in association with BUAs/projects. Their BSL-1 and BSL-2 labs are scheduled for inspection after the IBC meeting.
 - All required trainings are complete.
 - A medical management plan is in place for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* at BSL-3.
 - There are occupational health requirements for work with attenuated *M. tuberculosis* strains.
 - The draft BUA letter was shown.
 - A member made a motion to approve the draft BUA letter for Dr. Seshadri. Another member seconded the motion.

- The Committee voted unanimously to approve the draft BUA for Dr. Seshadri, pending successful completion of the lab inspection.

10. FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

- None

11. ISSUES FROM THE FLOOR & PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no issues from the floor, and no public comments.

12. MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 11:29 a.m.