

**DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY**  
**Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)**  
**IBC Meeting Minutes**

April 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	12:00 p.m.	Zoom meeting
Present: Drs. O'Donnell, Cascio, Cihil, Yuhouse and Barr		
Absent: Drs. Healy, Sweitzer and Samuel		

**1. Introduction of members**

- A.** Members present on Zoom call introduced themselves to one another.

**2. Review of submitted protocols**

**A. David Lampe - "Toward field-ready paratransgenesis for malaria: bacterial strain optimization and microbiota interactions"**

- a. BSL 1 as altering microbiome of bacteria
- b. Protocol now includes description about the scope of the work to be conducted in studying bacteria in mosquitos
- c. As noted in previous discussions, undergraduate students are not allowed in the lab. Protocol now eliminates any mention of student training, but enforcement is beyond the purview of the IBC.
- d. PI should confer with EHS to comply on regulations for shipping of samples to collaborators.
- e. Venom is not recombinant
- f. Sharps are not used in the lab (addressed query from previous discussion)

- g. Update protocol to reflect that 70% ethanol is not a disinfectant, must use 10% bleach and then ethanol wipe to prevent rusting
- h. A motion to approve the protocol was made and seconded, and unanimous vote to approve protocol.

**B. Jill Dembowski – Genetic manipulation of HSV-1, production of lentiviral vectors.**

- a. All comments to PI from previous meeting were addressed
- b. PI has BSL-2 facility
- c. Minor correction to be addressed – under risk assessment the PI incorrectly identifies VERO cells as human. This needs to be corrected to as they are primate cells.
- d. PI adequately clarified protocols. Be mindful that UV lamps are not effective for decontamination.
- e. A motion to approve the protocol was made and seconded, and unanimous vote to approve protocol.

**C. Jana Patton-Vogt – “Aspects of lipid metabolism in yeast”**

- a. Regarded as low-risk and straightforward. PI addressed all previous concerns.

- b. Minor concern that PI needs to update protocol to reflect that 70% ethanol is not a disinfectant, must use 10% bleach and then ethanol wipe to prevent rusting.
- c. A motion to approve the protocol was made and seconded, and unanimous vote to approve protocol.

**D. Michael Jensen-Seaman – “Cloning and expression of recombinant seminal proteins”**

- a. Regarded as low-risk and straightforward. PI should re-assess risk assessment as HEK cells are human cells and the protocol should reflect this.
- b. Minor concern that PI needs to address decontamination of PPE and equipment.
- c. Cihil moved to approve, Cascio seconded and unanimous vote to approve protocol pending minor revision.
- d. Be careful of response to drug resistance/ gain of function with respect to kanamycin resistance. Reassess statements for clarity.
- e. Update student (Finnegan) training
- f. A motion to approve the protocol was made and seconded, and unanimous vote to approve protocol.

**3. Update on IBC charter**

- A. There is no official IBC charter, and this needs to be rectified by the committee
- B. Need to identify voting members and rules for quorum. Suggestion was made that > 50% of members be present
- C. Use Roberts rules of order, with chair non-voting except to break ties? It was suggested that language of charter might be made consistent with IACUC charter.
- D. Suggestion was made to expand IBC participation given travel schedules and meeting conflicts to allow flexibility and maintain expertise of the committee.

The committee discussed potential candidates.

Deleted: Perhaps Dr. Rene Praeter, Associate Dean? Do we need to name this person here?

#### 4. New NIH guidelines for reporting of meeting minutes

- A. It was noted that implementation for institutions subject to the [NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules](#) (NIH Guidelines) detailed in a memorandum sent on March 28, 2025, that effective as of June 1, 2025 all IBC meetings taking place must publicly post meeting minutes on the Mentor website.

#### 5. Meeting Adjourned

- A. Meeting adjourned approximately at 1:00 pm