

**Institutional Biosafety
Committee Minutes
November 13, 2025
Zoom Meeting 1:30 pm**

Members Present

Bertram Jacobs
Al Jensen
Drew Solomon
Christopher Plaisier
Mitch Magee
Hugh Mason
Valerie Stout
Giorgio Scarpellini

Affiliated Participants

Greg Powell
Sarah Hurd
Stephanie Durst-Real
Karen Stevenson
Amanda Rice
Mary Turlington-Powell
Anne Nelson
Suzanne Kennedy

Visitors Present

Yang Xu
Kun-Hwa Lee
Arvind Varsani

Supporting Participants

Kristy Macdonald
Bree Prinzhorn

Institutional Official

Debra Murphy

Note: This meeting was conducted via Zoom. Meeting Format: Open meeting

Call to Order: The IBC Chair called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm and a quorum was confirmed. Introductions were made.

Minutes

The meeting minutes from October 9, 2025, were reviewed by the committee. A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded.

Total Vote: 8 Approved: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Recused: 0

Conflicts of Interest

The IBC Chair called for conflicts. An IBC member reported a conflict with the review of his disclosure.

Disclosures for Committee Review:

Varsani SPROTO2025-71 (BSL2 Renewal)

Varsani IBC

Primary Reviewer: Hugh Mason

The PI provided an overview of the amendment and responded to questions posed by the committee members. The lab is conducting research on virus evolution and discovery. The following changes were administratively made to the disclosure:

- Checked section III-E-2 on the NIH Guidelines page.

Discussion confirmed that Biosafety Level 2 precautions, training, and personal protective equipment are appropriate as proposed. Based on committee discussion, the NIH Guidelines classification for this disclosure was determined to be sections III-E, III-E-2, III-E-2-a, III-F-1, and III-F-8, Appendix C-II. A motion was made to approve the disclosure as modified. The motion was seconded.

Total Vote: 8 Approved: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Recused: 0

Clark SPROTO2025-70 (BSL2 Renewal)

Clark Lab Basic Protocols

Primary Reviewer: Chris Plaisier

The lab manager provided an overview of the disclosure and responded to questions posed by the committee members. The lab is conducting research on nano sensors. The following changes were administratively made to the disclosure:

- Added a note that materials applying to section III-D-4-b will be added later.

Discussion confirmed that Biosafety Level 2 precautions, training, and personal protective equipment are appropriate as proposed. Based on committee discussion, the NIH Guidelines classification for this disclosure was determined to be sections III-D, III-D-4, III-D-4-a, III-D-4-b, III-E, III-F-1, and III-F-8, Appendices C-I and C-II. A motion was made to approve the disclosure as modified. The motion was seconded.

Total Vote: 8 Approved: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Recused: 0

Yan SPROTO2025-75 (BSL2 Renewal)

DNA Origami Nanoplatfrom

Primary Reviewer: Valerie Stout

The lab manager provided an overview of the disclosure and responded to questions posed by the committee members. The lab is conducting research on DNA origami. The following changes were administratively made to the disclosure:

- Checked sections III-D-4-b, III-F-1, and III-F-8, Appendix C-VII on the NIH Guidelines page.

Discussion confirmed that Biosafety Level 2 precautions, training, and personal protective equipment are appropriate as proposed. Based on committee discussion, the NIH Guidelines classification for this disclosure was determined to be sections III-D, III-D-4, III-D-4-b, III-E, III-F-1, and III-F-8, Appendices C-I, C-II, and C-VII. A motion was made to approve the disclosure as modified. The motion was seconded.

Total Vote: 8 Approved: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Recused: 0

Mason SPROTO2023-57 (BSL2 Amendment)

Primary Reviewer: Giorgio Scarpellini

The PI provided an overview of the amendment and responded to questions posed by the committee members. The lab is increasing their biosafety level from BSL1 to BSL2. The following changes were administratively made to the disclosure:

- Added a statement to Question 1 on the Exposure Assessment and Protective Equipment page.

Discussion confirmed that Biosafety Level 2 precautions, training, and personal protective equipment are appropriate as proposed. Based on committee discussion, the NIH Guidelines classification for this disclosure was determined to be sections III-D, III-D-2, III-D-2-a, III-D-5, III-E, III-E-1, III-E-2, III-E-2-a, III-F-1, and III-F-8, Appendix C-II. A motion was made to approve the amendment as modified. The motion was seconded.

Total Vote: 8 Approved: 7 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 1 Recused: 0

Additional Business:

Consent Agenda

The committee reviewed and acknowledged the consent agenda.

1. Biosafety Officer's Report

- The Biosafety Officer informed the committee of an incident that occurred in a lab on November 3, 2025. An employee was handling a transgenic mouse when they suffered a bite to the hand. The incident was reported to the NIH on November 14, 2025.
- The Biosafety Officer informed the committee of the Biosafety Awareness event that took place on October 14, 2025.
- The Biosafety Officer informed the committee of quarterly PAPR checks. No flaws were noted and the PAPR's are not at their usage limits.

2. Education Item: Spatial dynamics of brain development and neuroinflammation

The meeting was adjourned at 2:28 pm. The next IBC Meeting will be held on December 11, 2025 at 1:30 pm.