

**Institutional Biosafety  
Committee Minutes  
December 11, 2025  
Zoom Meeting 1:30 pm**

**Members Present**

Bertram Jacobs  
Al Jensen  
Giorgio Scarpellini  
Hugh Mason  
Chris Plaisier  
Matthew Scotch  
Mitch Magee  
Kathleen Kennedy

**Affiliated Participants**

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

**Visitors Present**

Stuart Newfeld  
Prathamesh Chopade  
Juergen Liebig  
Jit Gosai  
Deepak Karna

**Supporting Participants**

Bree Prinzhorn  
Kristy Macdonald

**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 November 13, 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:**

**Newfeld SPROTO2025-81 (BSL1 Renewal)**

**Drosophila Genetics**

**Primary Reviewer: Matthew Scotch**

The PI provided an overview of the disclosure and responded to questions posed by the committee members. The lab is conducting research on the embryonic development and tumor formation in *Drosophila melanogaster*. The following changes were administratively made to the disclosure:

- Unchecked section III-D-4-b on the NIH Guidelines page.

Discussion confirmed that Biosafety Level 1 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-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

**Shrivastava SPROTO2025-85 (BSL2 Renewal)**

**Study of bacterial surface motility and type 9 secretion system**

**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 bacterial strains possessing the Type 9 secretion system. The following changes were administratively made to the disclosure:

- Checked section III-D-4-b on the NIH Guidelines page.
- Unchecked section III-D-4-a 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-1, III-D-1-a, III-D-4, III-D-4-b, III-E, 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

**Liebig SPROTO2025-80 (BSL1 Renewal)**

**Liebig Ant and Termite Olfactory Receptors**

**Primary Reviewer: Hugh Mason**

The PI provided an overview of the disclosure and responded to questions posed by the committee members. The lab is conducting research on olfactory receptors of various ant and termite species.

Discussion confirmed that Biosafety Level 1 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-F-1, and III-F-8, Appendix C-II. A motion was made to approve the disclosure as presented. The motion was seconded.

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

**Hariadi SPROTO2025-82 (BSL2 Renewal)**

**Hariadi – Myosin, Antiviral, and Integrin**

**Primary Reviewer: Mitch Magee**

The lab manager provided an overview of the disclosure and responded to questions posed by the committee members. The lab is conducting research on integrin and DNA sensors.

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-3, III-D-3-a, III-E, III-E-1, III-F-1, and III-F-8, Appendices C-I and C-II. A motion was made to approve the disclosure as presented. The motion was seconded.

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

**Hugh Mason assumed the role of IBC Chair at 1:55 pm. The committee entered executive session at 1:56 pm.**

**Jacobs SPROTO2025-78 (BSL3 Renewal)**

**Monkeypox Interferon Resistance**

**Primary Reviewer: Valerie Stout**

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

- Checked section III-F-8, Appendix C-I on the NIH Guidelines page.
- Changed Question 5 and Question 9 on the Select Agents and Toxins page.

Discussion confirmed that Biosafety Level 3 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-1, III-D-1-a, III-D-1-b, III-D-2, III-D-2-a, III-D-3, III-D-3-a, III-D-3-b, III-D-4, III-D-4-b, III-D-4-c (2), 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: 7

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 1

Recused: 0

**The committee exited Executive Session at 1:57 pm. Bertram Jacobs assumed the role of IBC Chair at 2:05 pm.**

**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 21, 2025. A lab member suffered a bite to the hand by an animal. The employee followed all exposure protocols and reported to employee health. The incident was not reportable to the NIH.
- The Biosafety Team met with a lab to discuss unauthorized personnel working in a lab space. The room is in a shared lab space and does not have an individual locking system. Because BSL2+ work occurs in the room, the lab is concerned about unauthorized personnel entering the space. The Institutional Official is going to request the lab gets keys to the space so the key that is currently available will not be accessible to unauthorized personnel. The IO and Biosafety Team will coordinate with facilities to investigate how to restrict access to the room.
- The Biosafety Team has been working with Employee Health, the Office of General Counsel, and Risk Management to develop an acknowledgement form for work with Zika Virus.
- The Biosafety Officer provided an update on a lab that is currently catching wild deer mice. The mice have completed their first serology test with negative results for pathogens. A second test will be run and if the results are negative, the animals will exit quarantine.

**2. Education Item: Vaccine advice based on science: US center fills gaps in public-health information**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:24 pm. The next IBC Meeting will be held on January 8, 2026 at 1:30 pm.