

**Institutional Biosafety
Committee Minutes
January 8, 2026
Zoom Meeting 1:30 pm**

Members Present

Bertram Jacobs
Al Jensen
Giorgio Scarpellini
Hugh Mason
Chris Plaisier
Matthew Scotch
Mitch Magee
Kathleen Kennedy
Drew Solomon
Valerie Stout
Yixin Shi

Affiliated Participants

Sarah Hurd
Karen Stevenson
Mary Turlington-Powell
Suzanne Kennedy
Anne Nelson

Visitors Present

Dan Cox
Patricia Baker
Shatabdi Bhattacharjee

Supporting Participants

Bree Prinzhorn
Kristy Macdonald

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

Call to Order: The IBC Chair called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm and a quorum was confirmed. Introductions were made.

Minutes

The meeting minutes from December 11, 2025, were reviewed by the committee. A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded.

Total Vote: 11 Approved: 11 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Recused: 0

Conflicts of Interest

The IBC Chair called for conflicts. No conflicts were reported.

Disclosures for Committee Review:

Redding SPROTO2025-89 (BSL1 Renewal)

Kevin Redding's Research Lab Activities

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 *Heliobacterium modesticaldum* and light-driven electron transfer. The following changes were administratively made to the disclosure:

- Checked sections III-F-5 and III-F-8, Appendix C-V 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-F-1, III-F-5, and III-F-8, Appendices C-II, C-V, and C-VI. A motion was made to approve the disclosure as modified. The motion was seconded.

Total Vote: 11 Approved: 11 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Recused: 0

Cox SPROTO2025-87 (BSL1 New Disclosure)

Dendrites and Sensory Behavior

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 dendrite development in the contexts of health and neurological disease. 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: 11 Approved: 11 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 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 December 16, 2025. A lab member suffered a sharps injury while handling a frozen liver sample from a wild-caught woodrat. The lab member was using tweezers when the tip of the tweezers pushed through their glove and broke the skin. The employee followed all protocols and reported to employee health. EHS discussed alterations that can be made to the procedure to perform it more effectively. The incident is not reportable to the NIH.
- The Biosafety Officer informed the committee of serology test results that have been performed on wild caught mice from a lab. All results have come back negative for pathogens.

2. Education Item: Lesion-remote astrocytes govern microglia-mediated white matter repair

The meeting was adjourned at 2:01 pm. The next IBC Meeting will be held on February 12, 2026 at 1:30 pm.