

University of Delaware Biosafety Committee  
Meeting Minutes- June 4, 2026 11:30am-1:30pm  
Hybrid- In Person and Zoom Meeting

| <b><u>Present</u></b> | <b><u>Member</u></b>                                                      |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                       | Dr. Jennifer Biddle, School of Marine Science and Public Policy           |
| X                     | Dr. Erin Brannick, Animal and Food Sciences, Animal Expert, IBC Chair     |
| X                     | Ms. Renee Brown, Research Office                                          |
| X                     | Dr. Brandon Calitree, Environmental Health and Safety                     |
| X                     | Dr. Nicole Donofrio, Plant and Soil Sciences, Plant Expert                |
| X                     | Ms. Michelle Ferguson, Biosafety Officer, Environmental Health and Safety |
|                       | Ms. Michelle Hamilton, Community Member                                   |
|                       | Mr. Norm Henry, Community Member                                          |
| X                     | Dr. Brian Kwee, Biomedical Engineering                                    |
|                       | Dr. Anja Nohe, Biological Sciences                                        |
| X                     | Dr. Mark Parcels, Animal and Food Sciences, Animal Expert                 |
|                       | Ms. Margaret (Meg) Roth, School of Nursing                                |
| X                     | Dr. Stephen Streatfield, Plant and Soil Sciences, Plant Expert            |
| X                     | Ms. Heather Walters, Medical and Molecular Sciences                       |
| X                     | Dr. Neal Zondlo, Chemistry and Biochemistry                               |
| X                     | Dr. Chi Keung Lam, Biological Sciences                                    |
| X                     | Dr. Subhasis Biswas, Medical and Molecular Sciences                       |

A quorum was met for this meeting.

**Guests Present**

Ms. Kayla Velazquez, Environmental Health and Safety

**Call to Order**

- Dr. Brannick called the meeting to order at 11:30am. Minutes from April 1, 2026 meeting were approved. (12 for/0 against)

**Committee Review of Recombinant DNA Registrations**

- The Committee reviewed the list of exempt category research. Nine protocols met this category (26-026, 26-027, 26-029, 26-030, 26-032, 26-033, 26-035, 26-036, 26-037). The Committee voted unanimously in favor of acceptance.
- The non-exempt research was reviewed next. Three experiments met this category. 26-028, 26-031, and 26-034 were reviewed as indicated on the Review Forms beginning on page 3. The protocols were unanimously voted in favor of acceptance.

**Incident Review**

- The committee reviewed two incidents, I26-005, I26-006 that were deemed non-reportable according to the NIH Guidelines

**Program Summaries and Ongoing Oversight**

The committee discussed updates within the select agent program, bloodborne pathogen program and biosafety program.

- A new ARO was added to the select agent program. There is an emergency tabletop exercise planned for the end of July.
- Discussion of registration compliance for the BBP and Biosafety programs, as well as training deficiencies were presented to the committee. Individuals have been contacted monthly regarding their outstanding items for each program.

**Old Business**

- UBC SOP revisions and updates were discussed regarding adding in information about NIH transparency for IBC. NIH transparency is still ongoing, however, the Committee voted on the changes made to date, with the stipulation that additional changes could be made once the DURC guidelines are finalized.

**New Business**

- The Committee discussed an addendum for rDNA protocol 25-015. The PI is adding additional antigens for his current project.
- The injury flowchart was reviewed and minor changes were made to the document to clarify further.
- The BSO shared a news article regarding monkeypox being smuggled by foreign nationals.

**IBC Training**

- The Committee discussed escalation for delinquent training.

**Public Comments**

- There were no public comments for this meeting.

**Adjournment**

- The Committee moved to adjourn the meeting, unanimously approved at 12:30 p.m.
- The next meeting will be held on Thursday October 1, at 11:30

Respectfully submitted,

*Michelle Ferguson*

Michelle Ferguson  
Biosafety Officer

University Biosafety Committee Review Form  
For Recombinant DNA Experiments Covered by the  
NIH *Guidelines*

**Principal Investigator:** \_\_\_\_\_ Dr. Wilfred Chen/Logan Yeager \_\_\_\_\_

**Department:** Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

**Project Title:** Controlling the Activity of Diphtheria Toxin Through a Conditionally Disassembled Nanoparticle

**Registration Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ 26-028 (new protocol)

NIH Guidelines Section: III-D-2

**Description of procedures provided:** Yes ☒ No \_\_\_\_\_

Cell binding domain decorated nanoparticle loaded with truncated diphtheria toxin to evaluate the input response delivery of protein therapeutics to triple negative breast cancer cells.

**Containment Level:** \_\_\_\_\_ BSL-2 \_\_\_\_\_

**Appropriate facilities to be used:** Yes ☒ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Procedures acceptable for containment:** Yes ☒ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Work practices acceptable for containment:** Yes ☒ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Training/ Experience of Personnel acceptable for work:** Yes ☒ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** The committee agreed with the proposed procedures, work practices and containment. Lab members listed on this protocol have been properly trained with techniques. No concerns were brought up.

These items have been reviewed by the University Biosafety Committee and the committee has voted ☒ **For** \_\_\_\_\_ Against approval of this project on this date. (10 for/0 against)

Experiments covered by this protocol can now be initiated.

UBC Representative: \_\_\_\_\_ *Michelle L Ferguson* \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 6/4/26 \_\_\_\_\_

University Biosafety Committee Review Form  
For Recombinant DNA Experiments Covered by the  
NIH *Guidelines*

**Principal Investigator:** \_\_\_\_\_ Dr. Aimee Jaramillo-Lambert \_\_\_\_\_

**Department:** \_Biological Sciences

**Project Title:** Analysis of TOP-2 Regulation During Meiosis in *C. elegans* using CRISPR/Cas9 Genome Editing

**Registration Number:** \_\_\_\_\_26-031 (3 year renewal of 23-004)

NIH Guidelines Section: III-D-4

**Description of procedures provided:** Yes \_\_XX\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

We use gene editing technology to study how proteins work during the cell division that makes sperm and eggs.

**Containment Level:** \_\_\_\_\_BSL-2\_\_\_\_\_

**Appropriate facilities to be used:** Yes \_\_XX\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Procedures acceptable for containment:** Yes \_\_XX\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Work practices acceptable for containment:** Yes \_\_XX\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Training/ Experience of Personnel acceptable for work:** Yes \_\_XX\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** The committee agreed with the proposed procedures, work practices and containment. Lab members listed on this protocol have been properly trained with techniques. No concerns were brought up.

These items have been reviewed by the University Biosafety Committee and the committee has voted \_\_XX\_\_ **For** \_\_\_\_\_ Against approval of this project on this date. (13 for/0 against)

Experiments covered by this protocol can now be initiated.

UBC Representative: \_\_\_\_\_*Michelle L Ferguson*\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_6/4/26\_\_\_\_\_

University Biosafety Committee Review Form  
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NIH Guidelines

**Principal Investigator:** \_\_\_\_\_ Dr. Molly Sutherland \_\_\_\_\_

**Department:** Biological Sciences

**Project Title:** Biochemical and functional characterization of genes and proteins related to cytochrome c biogenesis in bacterial systems

**Registration Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ 26-034 (3 year renewal of 23-016) \_\_\_\_\_

NIH Guidelines Section: III-D-2

**Description of procedures provided:** Yes ☒ No ☐

Cytochromes *c* are unique because they require the covalent attachment of heme to properly fold and function. Cytochromes *c* function in pathways to help cells make energy, thus they are required for survival of nearly all organisms. There are three pathways that can 'make' cytochromes *c*: System I, II and III. Our lab studies System I and II found in bacteria. Because Systems I and II are essential (i.e., required for survival) in many bacteria, recombinant expression in *E. coli* is needed to study these pathways. This work will recombinantly express cytochrome *c* biogenesis proteins and cytochromes *c* from organisms such as *Helicobacter*, *Campylobacter*, *Bacteroides* and *Bordetella* to understand how cytochromes *c* biogenesis pathways function to move and attach heme.

**Containment Level:** \_\_\_\_\_ BSL-2 \_\_\_\_\_

**Appropriate facilities to be used:** Yes ☒ No ☐

**Procedures acceptable for containment:** Yes ☒ No ☐

**Work practices acceptable for containment:** Yes ☒ No ☐

**Training/ Experience of Personnel acceptable for work:** Yes ☒ No ☐

**Comments:** The committee agreed with the proposed procedures, work practices and containment. Lab members listed on this protocol have been properly trained with techniques. No concerns were brought up.

These items have been reviewed by the University Biosafety Committee and the committee has voted ☒ For ☐ Against approval of this project on this date. (13 for/0 against)

Experiments covered by this protocol can now be initiated.

UBC Representative: Michelle L Ferguson

Date: 6/4/26