

IBC Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2024

1:00 – 2:00 pm Library RM 209 - ZOOM

I. Call to Order – 1:00 PM

II. Roll Call

Present - Rardy Spratt, David Giles, Jose Barbosa, Ben Stein, Bradley Harris, Michael Dabney, Pam Riggs-Gelasco

Absent –Darrell McGraw, Peggy Kovach, Bob Jackson, Jennifer Cunningham

Ex officio – Cheryl Murphy, Alexa McClellan

III. Approval of February 26, 2024 Minutes

1. Motion: Spratt, 2nd: Barbosa. All in favor: 8. All opposed: 0. Abstained: 1

IV. Old Business

1. Harris 23-20: Amendment to add new UG student. Approved by chair 03/06/24
2. New lab inspection checklist uploaded to website 3/06/24
3. IBC 23-04 (Ferdoush) Annual Update Approved 03/10/24
4. Upcoming courses requiring registrations:
 - a) Chemistry/Physics: Biochemistry (Fall), Protein & Nucleic Acids (Spring 25); Sanchez Diaz teaching PHYS 4300/L Physics of Living Systems Spring 2025
 - b) Dr. Ritu Sharma will be replacing Ben Stein (Protein & Nucleic acid lab)
 - c) Dr. Wang Yong Yang submitting new registration shortly
5. Students receiving SEARCH/DHON awards
 - a) Dr. Spratt will be adding Caitlin Crewes-Stowe's student to his registration
 - b) Committee approval is required following AWARD, not at proposal stage.
 - c) DHON proposals
 - a. ORI does not currently get notified of DHON awards. ORI will look into this and pursue notification.
6. The committee discussed the value of adding an IBC member from the health sciences to the IBC to add knowledge about potential registrations and answer questions.
7. CITI IBC Member Training Course Reminders (7 members expired)
8. Lab inspection sign up – Have only had 2 members sign up with availability (not including ORI)

- a) ORI will send out another email reminder

V. New Business

1. NIH Guidelines Update

- a) Expected in 1-2 months. Addresses Gene-Drive Technology (and GDMOs). Will need to update registration, website, guidance documents.

2. 24-01 Barbosa “Putative increase in yeast stress tolerance to a myriad of stresses with exogenous members of lipocalin genes family”

- a) Jose Barbosa recused himself from the discussion and left the room during discussion of his registration.
 - b) Containment Level: BSL1 is appropriate
 - c) NIH Category (III-E Miscellaneous – Other, Section III-F1, Section III-F8, Appendix C-II, Appendix C-III). Research is non-exempt.
 - 1. Check boxes need to be corrected - Since III-E Miscellaneous is checked in Section G., the research is considered non-exempt; therefore, the first box under H9 should be unchecked.
 - d) CITI Training – Students (Megan Lodge and Keyaira Sutton) have not completed required training. Barbosa’s training is expired. Training must be completed prior to approval.
 - e) Biohazard waste room should be Holt 108, not Holt 106
 - f) Infectious agents should be separated out onto separate lines. Both are BSL1.
 - g) Please describe the decontamination or disposal process if a lab coat is contaminated.
 - 1. Note – the committee discussed how this is an institutional responsibility and should be standardized across campus.
 - 2. Additionally, lab floors need to be mopped with a disinfectant. Should this be a PI responsibility? We can’t expect custodial services to do this, but neither should investigators be tasked with obtaining their own cleaning supplies and ensuring that chemical solutions are adequately maintained and not expired. It is an institutional responsibility. Investigators should not be financially responsible for their own safety gear.
 - 3. IBC will add this to a list of concerns for ELT.
 - h) Protocol for transportation of materials to autoclave room needs to be discussed.
 - i) Motion for conditional approval pending revisions above: Stein. 2nd: Dabney 6 in favor. No opposed. 2 abstained.
- 3. 24-02 Bathi “Contaminants fate and transport in surface waters”**
- a) Dr. Barbosa rejoined the committee for discussion of Dr. Bathi’s registration.
 - b) Containment Level: There is not enough provided information to for the IBC to determine this.
 - c) NIH Category – no recombinant or synthetic nucleic acids will be used

- d) CITI Training – neither the investigator nor the students have completed the mandatory training. Training will need to be completed prior to approval.
- e) EPA funding ends in July of 2024. Will the research activities end when the grant ends?
- f) A. 6 – All facilities mentioned in the registration need to be listed here, including ECS 120 and ECS 236.
- g) B.2. – There is not enough information provided here to understand the purpose and goals of the research project.
- h) D – No biological agents are listed, therefore IBC cannot determine the appropriate containment requirements. Are there expected biological agents that can be listed here? Is there past research that suggests what biological agents might be present?
- i) D. 6 – There is not enough information provided here for a complete IBC review. The investigator needs to provide a detailed sampling plan – frequency, method (e.g., grab vs. filtration, etc.), source, and any required site permissions. Will any water samples fall under decontamination procedures as listed in the referenced EPA/CDC protocol? How will samples be manipulated in further analyses and is there a significant risk of aerosols?
- j) IBC noted that areas of Chattanooga are an EPA superfund site and that there may be significant contaminants in waste water. Furthermore, depending on the site location, there may be privacy concerns with the residential population.
- k) Given the back and forth with the investigator that has already occurred, Dr. Spratt will reach out to him personally and offer to talk through the IBC action items.
- l) Motion to reject registration. Will review again when revisions are submitted – Dabney. 2nd - Stein. All in favor: 6. No opposed. 3 abstentions
- m) Dabney volunteered to read through EPA grant proposal for further information.

4. **SOP #6 – Shipping Biohazardous Materials**

- a) Pam Riggs-Gelasco had to excuse herself from the meeting early.
- b) The IBC reviewed a draft of the Shipping Biohazardous Materials SOP.
- c) The committee agreed that students may receive shipments, but they should not be allowed to send shipments due to personal liability.
- d) UTC can acquire shipping labels to provide to investigators.
- e) AT UTK, the IBC Director meets with shipper personally and assists with first time shipments. Would UTC want to follow a similar model? Who would be that point person? Dabney expressed willingness.
- f) The IBC agreed to set up a sub-committee to discuss this SOP more in depth.
 1. ORI will send out an email seeing who might be interested in serving on subcommittee. Dabney and Giles expressed interest.

VI. Next Meeting – April 22, 2024

VII. Adjournment – 2 PM