INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

August 26, 2026 Minutes

ZOOM

A. CALL TO ORDER: 2:30 PM

B. ATTENDANCE:

Affiliated: Davy Giles, Paula Jo Peters
Non-Affiliated: Jennifer Eve, Brad White, Evelyn Mobley
Ex-Officio: Cheryl Murphy, Lacy Bobo, Brandon Williams

C. APPROVAL OF JULY 27, 2026 MINUTES:

Motion: Approve as written
Vote: In Favor: 6 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 2

D. OLD BUSINESS: None

E. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

- **A. Approvals (FCR):** None
- **B. Administrative Approvals:**
  - A. SAMEND202600000015 (D. Giles, BIOL 4220L, 7/30/2026)
- **C. Inspections conducted:**
  - A. Holt 305D (Inspected 8/12/2026)
  - B. Holt 330/329/325 (Inspected 8/12/2026)
  - C. Holt 120/120A (Inspected 8/25/2026)
  - D. Grote 308/309 (Inspected 8/26/2026)

F. NEW BUSINESS:

- **A. SPROTO202600000047, Nominanda Barbosa, BIOL 2100 – Microbiology & Health Laboratory:** (*BSL-1 and BSL-2*) This is a non-recombinant protocol. The biohazards involved are sheep blood (BSL-1, used only in blood agar media) and fifteen bacterial species: *Escherichia coli*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Bacillus cereus*, *Clostridium sporogenes*, *Enterobacter aerogenes*, *Geobacillus stearothermophilus*, *Micrococcus luteus*, *Serratia marcescens*, *Staphylococcus epidermidis*, and *Streptococcus mutans* (all BSL-1), along with *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Proteus vulgaris*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Salmonella enteritidis*, and *Staphylococcus aureus* (all BSL-2). Planned manipulations consist of standard undergraduate microbiology teaching exercises, including aseptic transfer/inoculation between media, streak-plate isolation of pure cultures from mixed cultures, Gram and endospore staining, use of selective /differential media for identification, biochemical identification tests, studies of environmental growth conditions (temperature, oxygen, radiation), a handwashing /infection-spread demonstration, and a semester-long student project culturing and identifying an environmental sample using the techniques learned. One demonstration involves inoculating sheep blood agar with a single BSL-1 bacterium, performed solely by the instructor, students only observing photographed results rather than handling the blood agar directly. There is no animal or human use of any agent, and no transport of infectious material between buildings is described.
  - **A.** Additional committee concerns/corrections needed: For item 7 under basic information, the committee requested: (1) either the inclusion of a citation for the lab manual being used or an electronic copy provided of it under "Supporting Documents," (2) a listing of all

experiments in detail and showing which experiments require the liquid bacterial cultures. If the course syllabus has this information, a copy should be uploaded it under "Supporting Documents." (3) The PI mentions: "Also, once the basic microbiological techniques are mastered (aseptic technique and inoculation)," and an explanation of how the students will prove mastery is needed. How is this being defined? And (4) The PI should provide a clear manifest of materials being used for each experiment, including a list of chemicals. If this information is provided in the lab manual or another document that is uploaded under "Supporting Documents" that will suffice. Additionally, the committee requested that the commercial source of the sheep blood be provided, as well as a description for each agent on how they are specifically being used. The committee also requested that a description of the requirement of CITI training for the students be provided, removal of PPE information from the Risk Group and Containment Practices session as it should be provided in the Exposure Assessment and Protective Equipment section, and the inclusion of control measures in place. The committee also requested that the description of the consequences of exposure be provided for both RG1 and RG2 agents and to include information regarding immunocompromised individuals. Lastly, the committee recommended that face shields be provided to students with open sores on the face, that the PI specify who disposes the biohazard waste, and includes information on how often the lab coats are autoclaved, and the process for that.

B. Motion: Approve Pending Modifications w/ Administrative Review

C. Vote: In favor: 6 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 2

B. SPROTO202600000048, Nominanda Barbosa, Microbiology Prep Laboratory:

(*BSL-1 and BSL-2*) This is a non-recombinant protocol. The biohazards involved are sheep blood (RG-1/BSL-1, supplied pre-made commercially as 5% blood agar and never directly handled by student assistants) and twenty-two microorganisms: fourteen BSL-1 bacteria (*Alcaligenes faecalis*, *Bacillus cereus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Citrobacter freundii*, *Clostridium sporogenes*, *Corynebacterium xerosis*, *Enterobacter aerogenes*, *Escherichia coli*, *Geobacillus stearothermophilus*, *Micrococcus luteus*, *Mycobacterium phlei*, *Mycobacterium smegmatis*, *Serratia marcescens*, *Staphylococcus epidermidis*, *Streptococcus mutans*), seven BSL-2 bacteria (*Enterococcus faecalis*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Proteus vulgaris*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Shigella sonnei*, *Staphylococcus aureus*), and one BSL-1 yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*). Planned manipulations are limited to standard prep-lab support activities rather than direct experimentation: ordering and preparing bacterial growth media (dissolving pre-mixed commercial media, dispensing into tubes or pouring into sterile petri dishes, and sterilizing by autoclave or occasional filtration), growing and maintaining bacterial/ yeast stock cultures needed for BIOL 4220 and BIOL 2100 laboratory exercises, transporting finished media and cultures by wheeled cart from the prep lab (Holt 305-D) to the teaching lab (Holt 330) for instructor and student use, and collecting, decontaminating (autoclaving), and disposing of biohazardous waste generated by both courses. There is no animal or human use of any agent, and while materials are moved between rooms within Holt Hall (305-D, 325, 329, 330), there is no transport of infectious material between separate buildings on campus.

A. Additional committee concerns/corrections needed: The committee noted that Victoria Lac needs to complete the Initial Biosafety CITI training, the source of the sheep blood needs to be provided as well as the strain information for the mycobacterium smegmatis, and a description of the requirement of CITI training for the students working in the lab should be included. A description of the activities conducted under volunteer hours for the BIOL4220 students should be included, the PPE information in the Risk Group and Containment Practices section should be removed and only included in the Exposure Assessment and Protective Equipment section, and the PI should specify the exposure

consequences based on RG1 and RG2 agents separately, including those for any aerosol-producing experiments, while also including information regarding immunocompromised individuals.

B. Motion: Approve Pending Modifications w/ Administrative Review

C. Vote: In favor: 6 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 2

C. Additional items for discussion: IBC SOP #5 Review: Tabled

G. NEXT MEETING: The Chair confirmed that the fourth Wednesday of the month at 2:30 PM works for all those present moving forward. The next meeting will take place on **September 23, 2026**, at **2:30 PM**.

H. ADJOURNMENT: 3:33 PM