



## CMU Institutional Biosafety Committee

**Meeting Minutes:** May 27, 2025

**Location:** Virtual via Teams

**Meeting Start Time:** Quorum was confirmed, the attendance of a non-affiliated community member was confirmed, and the meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm.

### 1. Attendance

Voting/Roster	Role
Greg Colores	Chair
Devin Boyles	Biosafety Consultant
Kevin Park	Animal Expert
Dawn Polanco	Non-affiliated Community Member

Staff (Non-voting): Belinda Adamson (DRC), Kristin DeMuro (ADRC), Jennifer Marrs (Coordinator)

### 2. Review of Minutes

The IBC Chair asked if members had any concerns or suggested changes to the minutes distributed prior to the meeting. None were identified. Minutes from April 16, 2025, were accepted as submitted.

### 3. Updates and Announcements

The IBC Chair announced that the NIH recently released an implementation update promoting transparency under the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules. To meet these transparency aims, as of June 1, 2025, the NIH Office of Science Policy will publicly post the rosters of all registered IBCs. They will also post the contact information for the IBC Chair, BSO and IBC contact.

The NIH also expects that all approved meeting minutes from meetings taking place on or after June 1, 2025, be publicly posted on the institution's website.

### 4. IBC Registrations for Review

#### Three-year Renewal

PI Name(s)	Julien Rossignol
Registration Number/Title	2025-149 Delivery of large and small biomolecules, CRISPR Cas9 and gene regulatory plasmids using dendrimer nanoparticles in vitro and in vivo
Location	Health Professions Building, Health Professions Vivarium, CMED South
Project Overview	Agent name: CRISPR Cas9 Plasmids Host: E. coli

	<p>Vectors: Adeno-associated virus 8, Adeno-associated virus 5/9</p> <p>Genetic Modifications: Virus and plasmids will be modified to insert different promoters and gene expression cassettes.</p>
<b>Applicable NIH Guidelines Section</b>	NIH III-D-4-c
<b>Required Training</b>	Biosafety Training, Lab Safety Training, Radiation Safety Training for personnel doing the radioisotope work
<b>Biosafety Level Assignment</b>	BSL-1
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	The existing risk assessment documentation is adequate and covers the proposed work. There are no deviations from previously conducted activities that prompt a new risk assessment for outlined material in this current protocol.
<b>Summary of Discussion</b>	<p>This application is a 3-year renewal. Small and large reporter molecules will be attached to dendrimers and used in mice and cell culture to assess the utility of these molecules to help target specific cells/organelles. This project is being reviewed by the full committee as it involves the use of recombinant DNA in whole animals. All work will be conducted under BSL-1 containment.</p> <p>This is a large umbrella protocol in connection with 4 IACUC protocols and a radiation protocol, and there was committee concern about the overlap of the protocols, including the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of description about the handling and disposal of radioactive compounds.</li> <li>• There was only reference to the related IACUC protocols and radiation protocol, with no detailed descriptions.</li> <li>• There was no description of which personnel will be completing each procedure (radioisotope work, injections, etc.), and it was difficult to know who has had the proper training.</li> <li>• In Section 3.D. of the application, the PI did not list the potential hazards of sharps injury and radioisotope disposal.</li> </ul> <p>The following modifications will be requested from the PI:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide the following information: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A detailed description of the handling and disposal of radioactive compounds (reference to Dr. McKee's radiation protocol is not sufficient).</li> <li>b. Procedural detail related to handling and disposal of radioactive compounds in the context of the relevant IACUC protocols 2024-497 and 2024-381.</li> <li>c. Specify which personnel will be completing each procedure (who will be performing the radioisotope work, who will be performing injections, etc.). Are they properly trained?</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	<p>Suggest adding relevant info (IACUC excerpts, radiation protocol excerpts, etc.) as notes or attachments under Section 7 – Attachments.</p> <p>2. In Section 3.D., with the potential hazards of sharp injury and the handling and disposal of radioisotopes, change the answer to this question to “yes.” This will open a section for 3.E, where you will describe the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The hazards associated with using sharps, handling and disposing of radioisotopes and accidental spills.</li> <li>The measures you will take to minimize exposure to the hazards. Include personal protection equipment that will be utilized.</li> </ol>
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**Vote:** Request Modifications to Secure Approval

# Present	#Absent	Votes For	Votes Against	Abstained	Recused
4	1	4	0	0	0

#### 5. Protocol Approvals (since last meeting)

1	IBC Protocol Submission
Protocol #:	2022-1652
Protocol Title:	Copine Proteins in Dictyostelium
Principal Investigator:	Damer, Cynthia

2	IBC Protocol Submission
Protocol #:	2023-1092
Protocol Title:	Fate of antibiotic resistance genes by anaerobic digestion of sludge (Microbial analysis is not conducted in Brooks 213 and Brooks 214)
Principal Investigator:	Demirer, Goksel

3	IBC Protocol Submission
Protocol #:	2023-233
Protocol Title:	Structure/Function Analysis of the Actin Crosslinking Domain of RTX Toxin from Vibrio cholerae
Principal Investigator:	Juris, Stephen

**6. Adjournment:** Meeting end time was 2:20 pm. A quorum was maintained, and a non-affiliated community member was present for the duration of the meeting.