

Voting Members Present:

K-BIOL (Interim Chair)
T-ORIA
M-ORIA
D-NAM
K-EHS
S-BME
S-BIOL
K-NAM

Voting Members Absent:

A-ME (Chair)

Non-voting Attendees:

KS-ORIA
KA-ORIA
P-ORIA

The full Committee roster is posted publicly on the Georgia Tech website. All requests from the public to join a Georgia Tech IBC meeting are considered upon request. No such requests were received for this meeting.

1. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 10:01 am.**2. Approval of December 4, 2026, Minutes**

The December IBC minutes were sent to committee review. No modifications were requested.

Motion: Approve the minutes as written.

Approve: eight

Disapprove: none

Abstain: none

Approval of December 11, 2026, Minutes

The December IBC minutes were sent to committee review. No modifications were requested.

Motion: Approve the minutes as written.

Approve: seven

Disapprove: none

Abstain: K-EHS

3. Registrations/Amendments for Discussion at Today's Meeting

SKOLNICK-R100094 (renewal)

Title: Experimental validation of ligand binding predictions

Funding: NIH, Discretionary

Category: Non-Exempt, BSL-2, Section III-E., III-F-8. (Appendix C-II.)

Discussion Leaders: S-BIOL, K-EHS

The Committee and BSO reviewed this renewal submission and evaluated the risk assessment and proposed biocontainment plan. The goal of the proposed work is to study the experimental validation of ligand-

binding predictions from computational studies. The proposed use of cancer cell line driver proteins, marker proteins, risk genes related to Alzheimer’s disease and the coding region for dihydrofolate reductase indicates that this work should be classified as Non-Exempt, BSL-2, Section III-E., III-F-8. (Appendix C-II). The Committee found that the facilities, procedures, practices, training, and expertise of personnel described on this protocol are appropriate for the proposed work. The PI has identified the potential risks involved with this research and has included plans to mitigate such risks that are suitable for the research described. The Committee discussed the protocol and found that a related IRB protocol was expired and did not cover the research proposed in the protocol. The PI should submit a relevant, approved IRB protocol prior to receiving IBC approval. Also, the Risk Assessment and/or Personnel Associates section(s) should be updated; the person listed to conduct training is not currently listed as personnel.

Motion: Return renewal protocol for revision and to gain IRB approval then be approved once updates are confirmed by ORIA.

Approve: eight

Disapprove: none

Abstain: none

NAJAFI-R100168 (renewal)

Title: Understanding Predictive Processing in Cortico-cerebellar Circuits

Funding: NIH, Discretionary

Category: Non-Exempt, BSL-2, ABSL-1, Section III-E-1, III-D-4

Discussion Leaders: S-BME, D-NAM

The Committee and BSO reviewed this renewal submission and evaluated the risk assessment and proposed biocontainment plan. The goal of the proposed work is to understand how cortical and cerebellar regions interact to generate and update predictions about the world. The proposed use of protein markers, site specific recombinants, calcium binding proteins, rhodopsin proteins, proton-pumping and voltage sensing proteins, protein tags, modified receptors, fluorescence sensors and bidirectional pairs of Opsins for light-induced excitation and silencing indicates that this work should be classified as Non-Exempt, BSL-2, ABSL-1, Section III-E-1, III-D-4. The Committee found that the facilities, procedures, practices, training, and expertise of personnel described on this protocol are appropriate for the proposed work. The PI has identified the potential risks involved with this research and has included plans to mitigate such risks that are suitable for the research described. The Committee discussed the protocol and found that the Risk Assessment and/or Personnel Associates section(s) should be updated; the person listed to conduct training is not currently listed as personnel. Also, there was a recommendation to simplify some of the terminology within the Lay Summary.

Motion: Approve the renewal protocol.

Approve: eight

Disapprove: none

Abstain: none

4. Items not requiring committee discussion or review

The Committee has been provided with a list of protocols, amendments, and renewals to IBC registrations which were approved at or since the last Biosafety Committee meeting (including items exempt from the NIH Guidelines). The Committee was also provided with a list of registrations which were withdrawn, expired, or closed since the last Biosafety Committee meeting.

5. Other business

- Policy Updates – An overview of the updates was provided by an IBC member. Other members were asked if any other updates are required and if they had any questions. No further editorial contributions were provided. It was mentioned that any policy changes the Chair (absent) may request can be brought back before the committee for a subsequent vote.

Motion: Approve the updated IBC Policies once appropriately formatted.

Approve: eight

Disapprove: none

Abstain: none

Next meeting March 5, 2026