

Voting Members Present:

A-ME (Chair)
K-BIOL (Interim Chair)
K-EHS
T-ORIA
KA-ORIA
K-NAM
S-BME
S-BIOL

Voting Members Absent:

D-NAM

Non-voting Attendees:

KS-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 May 14, 2026, Minutes**
The May IBC minutes were sent to the committee for review. No modifications were requested.

Motion: Approve the minutes as written.

Approve: Six

Disapprove: None

Abstain: Two

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

LIU-R100292 (Amendment)
Title: Nanomedicine for renal disease
Funding: N/A
Category: Non-Exempt, BSL-2, ABSL-1, Section III-E-1, III-F-1
Discussion Leaders: A-ME, T-ORIA

The Committee and BSO reviewed this amendment submission and evaluated the risk assessment and proposed biocontainment plan. The goal of the proposed work is to identify more effective Cas9 proteins for optimal gene therapies. The proposed use of siRNA, reporter proteins, Cas9 and sgRNA indicates that this work should be classified as Non-Exempt, BSL-2, ABSL-1, Section III-E-1, III-F-1. The Committee found that the facilities, procedures, practices, training, and expertise of personnel described in 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 requested that the PI clarify whether in vivo, in vitro, or both models will be involved in the newly added experiment.

Motion: Return protocol to the PI for clarification then send to ORIA for approval if the revisions are adequate.

Approve: Eight

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

DAS-R100165 (Renewal)

Title: Biochemistry of Lipid Metabolism

Funding: NIH, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Category: Non-Exempt, BSL-2, Section III-E, III-F-3

Discussion Leaders: S-BME, 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 lipid metabolism by cytochrome P450 and then study the function of the lipid metabolites. The proposed use of enzymes, receptors, transmembrane receptors, marker proteins, Human Gαo subunits, Yeast subunit homologs in expression vectors subunits and protein kinases indicates that this work should be classified as Non-Exempt, BSL-2, Section III-E, III-F-3. The Committee found that the facilities, procedures, practices, training, and expertise of personnel described in 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 requested that the PI provide an image of the vector map as opposed to providing a description from a scientific paper. Also, the PI should clarify what tissues will be utilized for the research.

Motion: Return protocol to the PI for revision then send it to the primary reviewers and the BSO for review. Protocol may be returned to the committee if any of those reviewers have further questions.

Approve: Eight

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

WOOD-R100076 (Renewal)

Title: Reporting and Modulation of Inflammation

Funding: Discretionary

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

Discussion Leaders: K-BIOL, KA-ORIA

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 identify the mechanisms of inflammatory signaling and response in mononuclear phagocytes (macrophages and microglia) in neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease and traumatic brain injury. The proposed use of marker proteins, kinases, immunomodulatory proteins, reporter proteins, enzymes, ligands, Cas9 guide RNA, and pathway activators indicates that this work should be classified as Non-Exempt, BSL-2, Section III-D-1. The Committee found that the facilities, procedures, practices, training, and expertise of personnel described in 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 requested that the PI modify the General Project Description to use more lay terminology. The description should be understood by a broad audience and less technical in nature. Also, the Committee wanted clarification on how AAV and lentivirus will be packaged.

Motion: Return the protocol to the PI for clarification and then reassign the primary reviewers to determine if the revisions are adequate.

Approve: Eight

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

WHITELEY-R100036 (Renewal)

Title: Probing polymicrobial synergy using high throughput genomics

Funding: CYSTIC FIBROSIS FOUNDATION, NIH, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

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

Discussion Leaders: S-BIOL, K-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 study bacterial pathogenesis in its natural state, which involves infections by communities of multiple organisms rather than a single species. The proposed use of marker proteins, recombinases, CRISPR interference, transposon-based mutagenesis, reporters, complementing fragments, riboprobe and helper plasmids indicates that this work should be classified as Non-Exempt, BSL-2, ABSL-2, Section III-D-2, III-D-4. The Committee found that the facilities, procedures, practices, training, and expertise of personnel described in 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 had no concerns about this protocol.

Motion: Approve the protocol as written.

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

IBC Protocol Revision Response Time

- The Committee addressed the increase in PIs not responding to requested revisions prior to IBC meetings. It was recommended that PIs be provided with a reminder by ORIA prior to the meeting. If a PI fails to respond, then a secondary reminder should be provided including the IBC Chair. The Chair will follow up on the matter.

Arthropod Containment Designation Discussion

- The Committee discussed options for the appropriate containment level designation for arthropods and how it should be specified on the IBC protocol form. It was proposed that the Arthropod Containment Level (ACL) designation from the Biosafety in Biomolecular and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL) be used for arthropods as opposed to the NIH Guidelines nomenclature. The Committee opted to utilize the BMBL designation to prevent changing the current nomenclature. The Chair suggested to add an “Other” option to the containment section of the protocol to allow for other less used designations to be specified on the protocol form. The other members agreed.

Next meeting July 2026 the specific day is TBA