

Voting Members Present:

A-ME (Chair)
D-NAM
T-ORIA
K-NAM
M-ORIA
S-BIOL

Voting Members Absent:

K-BIOL
S-BME
K-EHS

Non-voting Attendees:

KS-ORIA
KA-ORIA
J-OGC

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 June 5, 2025 Minutes

The June 5th meeting minutes were sent to the Committee for review before the meeting. Several small corrections were noted and corrected.

Motion: Approve the minutes as modified.

Approve: Five

Disapprove: none

Abstain: One

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

WILLIAMS-R100271 (new)

Title: Ribosome: Construction and Deconstruction

Funding: NASA

Category: Non-Exempt, BSL-2, Sections III-E, III-F-5, III-F-8 (Appendix C-II, C-III)

Discussion Leaders: S-BIOL, K-NAM

The Committee and biological safety officer (BSO) reviewed this new submission and evaluated the risk assessment and proposed biocontainment plan. The proposed work aims to design, reconstruct and resurrect ancestral ribosome assemblies from ribosomal RNA and ribosomal protein and related molecules in silico and in vitro to better understand protein translation and the origins of life. The proposed use of marker proteins, nucleic acid sequences, cell lines, and vectors indicate that this work should be classified as non-exempt, BSL-2 work per NIH Guidelines Sections III-E, III-F-5, III-F-8 (Appendix C-II, C-III). 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.

Motion: Approve the protocol.

Approve: unanimous

Disapprove: none

Abstain: none

BROWN-R100078 (renewal)

Title: Evolutionary ecology of opportunistic pathogens

Funding: CDC, NIH, NSF, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Army, Discretionary

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

Discussion Leaders: T-ORIA, A-ME

The Committee and BSO reviewed this renewal submission and evaluated the risk assessment and proposed biocontainment plan. The proposed work involves studying how *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* responds to different environmental conditions via changes in gene expression, focusing on the cell-cell communication system termed 'quorum sensing'. The proposed enzymes, marker proteins, and bacteria indicate that this work should be classified as non-exempt, BSL-2 work per NIH Guidelines III-D-1a. 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 found a few areas that needed clarification including updating the risk assessment.

Motion: Return to PI to address minor modification

Approve: unanimous

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

- ORIA – minutes format

The committee briefly discussed the change in formatting of the IBC minutes, including new details required by the NIH and details about how the minutes will be publicly posted.

6. Having no further business, this meeting was adjourned at 10:46 am

Next meeting August 7, 2025