

Voting Members Present:

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

Voting Members Absent:

A-ME
D-NAM
K-NAM

Non-voting Attendees:

KS-ORIA
KA-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 10:03 am.

2. Approval of July 3, 2025 Minutes

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

Motion: Approve the minutes as written.

Approve: Three

Disapprove: none

Abstain: Three

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

DAVALOS-R100205 (new)

Title: Transduction of rodent cells with adeno-associated viral particles

Funding: Discretionary

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

Discussion Leaders: K-BIOL and S-BME

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 use lentiviral particles to permanently alter cells to make them fluorescent or luminescent for downstream assays. The proposed use of marker proteins, nucleic acid sequences, lentiviral vectors, cell lines, and vectors indicate that this work should be classified as non-exempt, BSL-2 work per NIH Guidelines Section III-F-1. 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 noted that the NIH citation chosen was exempt as well as noted several areas that needed clarification. The Committee voted to

return the submission and to approve it once ORIA and the BSO have reviewed the PI's responses and found them satisfactory.

Motion: Return to PI to address minor areas that need clarification and the NIH citation question.

Approve: unanimous

Disapprove: none

Abstain: none

Harrison-R100086 (renewal)

Title: Investigating RNAi Effect on Muscle Gene Expression in *C. elegans*

Funding: Discretionary

Category: Non-Exempt, BSL-2, Sections III-D-4, III-F-8

Discussion Leaders: S-BIOL and M-ORIA

The Committee and BSO reviewed this renewal submission and evaluated the risk assessment and proposed biocontainment plan. The proposed work is for an undergraduate module where the students will modify the expression of certain genes in *C. elegans* nematodes and study the resulting phenotype. The proposed use of multicellular organisms, marker proteins, and bacteria indicate that this work should be classified as non-exempt, BSL-2 work per NIH Guidelines Sections III-D-4 III-F-8. 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 noted that the proposed work only required BSL1 containment, but the current containment level chosen is BSL2. The Committee voted to return the submission and to approve it once the PI clarified the BSL containment level.

Motion: Return the submission to the PI for clarification about BSL containment level and approve once it has been addressed

Approve: unanimous

Disapprove: none

Abstain: none

PERALTA-YAHYA-R100145 (amendment that makes the protocol Non-Exempt)

Title: Lignin-derived polymer monomers

Funding: Discretionary

Category: Non-Exempt, BSL-1, Sections III-F-8, III-E-1

Discussion Leaders: K-EHS and T-ORIA

The Committee and biological safety officer reviewed this amendment submission and evaluated the risk assessment and proposed biocontainment plan. The submission proposes to develop methods to convert lignin monomers to polymers using non-pathogenic bacteria. The proposed use of marker proteins, enzymes, expression vectors, and transcription systems indicate that this work should be classified as non-exempt, BSL-1 work per NIH Guidelines Sections III-F-8, III-E-1. 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 risk that are suitable for the research described. The committee discussed this amendment, noting that the addition of the new material will change the categorization of the protocol to non-exempt, and found that this is a very safe expression system. Since there were no biosafety concerns, the committee voted to approve the amendment after a small administrative edit was made to move text to a more appropriate section.

Motion: Approve the amendment after a small administrative edit is made.

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

- X

6. Having no further business, this meeting was adjourned at 10:20 am

Next meeting September 4, 2025