
INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

The University of Texas at San Antonio

Wednesday October 1st, 2025

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Minutes Prepared by: Mohammad Siddiquir Rahman Khan

MEMBERS PRESENT (need 7 for quorum)

- ☒ Dr. Jose Lopez-Ribot, Chair, Voting
- ☒ Dr. Janakiram Seshu, Vice-Chair, Voting
- ☒ Mr. Mohammad Rahman Khan *ex officio*, Biological Safety Manager, Laboratory Safety
- ☒ Dr. JiehJuen Yu, Voting
- ☒ Dr. Karl Klose, Voting
- ☒ Dr. Marcel Perret-Gentil, Voting
- ☐ Dr. Jurgen Engelberth, Voting, Plant Specialist
- ☐ Dr. Astrid Cardona, Voting
- ☐ Mr. Rich Garza, Asst. Director Laboratory Safety & Hazardous Materials Management with vote
- ☒ Ms. Yolanda Acosta, *ex officio* Scientific Alternate with vote
- ☐ Dr. Ana Vallor, Non-Affiliated, Voting
- ☐ Dr. Shannan Hall-Ursone, Non-Affiliated, Voting
- ☐ Mr. Anthony Vallejo, *ex officio*, Director of Laboratory Safety, (Scientific Alternate)

GUESTS

- ☒ Mrs. Rachel Davis, UTSA Scholarly Resources Librarian
- ☐ Ms. Jolyn Demarest, Occupational Health Program non-voting
- ☐ Dr. Hamid Badali, Voting, (Scientific Alternate)
- ☒ Ms. Kimberly Moore, Laboratory Safety Specialist, (non-voting)

START: 09:02am 07 voting members present

ADJOURN: 09:41 am

I. THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of Meeting held on September 3rd 2025

Score 1: Approved

II. REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

In reviewing each protocol discussed below, the committee gave consideration to the following specific concerns, as appropriate:

- a. Adequacy of containment equipment / procedures / facilities to be implemented
- b. Agent characteristics (e.g., virulence, pathogenicity, environmental stability)
- c. Types of manipulations planned
- d. Source(s) of the inserted DNA sequences (e.g., species)
- e. Nature of the inserted DNA sequences (e.g., structural gene, oncogene)
- f. Host(s) and vector(s) to be used
- g. Whether or not an attempt will be made to obtain expression of a foreign gene, and if so, the protein that will be produced.

IBC#98 : CHE 4332: BIOCHEMISTRY II LAB

Students will be screening a chemical library to identify novel inhibitors of a bacterial enzyme to identify potential new antibiotics. During this course, students will perform a chemical transformation with competent cells (E. coli BL21(DE3)), grow the transformed cells in liquid culture and express protein, and purify the protein of interest.

In the second phase of the project, students will evaluate antibiotic activity using both disk diffusion and serial dilution techniques. A variety of BSL-1 safe relatives of a variety of clinically relevant bacteria known to be of concern for multidrug resistant infections will be screened.

Microbial Agents, Infectious Agents or Toxins
Biosafety Level
BSL 1
Risk Group
Section of the NIH Guidelines (if applicable)

Score: 01

Committee Decision: 07 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstention

IBC#49 : INSTRUCTIONAL IMMUNOLOGY LAB: LYMPHOID TISSUES AND CELLS

Use various techniques to investigate lymphoid tissues and cells. Techniques include single cell suspension from euthanized mice, protein quantification from extracted tissues, quantification of proteins from mouse blood, western blot analysis from extracted tissues, immunohistochemistry on purchased frozen tissues sections, flow cytometry on spleen cells, thymus cells and bone marrow cells, and bacterial inhibition assays from intestinal mucosal scrapings. In addition, hemagglutination studies will be performed using pre-screened commercially available human blood/serum or freshly collected human blood and agglutination assays with microbes will be performed using commercially available antisera in the presence or absence of commercially acquired or freshly collected human blood (volunteers self-proclaimed to be free of pathogens and 18 years of age or older) and/or mouse feces. Stimulation of cultured macrophages and/or Hela cells using microbes and/or LPS will be performed to induce an inflammatory response or measured the effects of chemicals on cell viability. Human sera/blood acquired from a commercial source or from freshly collected blood will also be used for ELISA testing and generation of blood smears. Canine serum and blood will be acquired from commercial source and will be handled under a biosafety cabinet class 2 for agglutination experiments and/or generation of blood smears. Cynomolgus monkey blood will be acquired from a commercial source and used for agglutinations assays and/or generation of blood smears. Bacteriophages along with E. coli will be acquired from a commercial source and will be used for determination of viral titers via plaque assays. Human saliva will be acquired from volunteers (18 years of age or older) self-proclaimed to be free of pathogens and will be used to assess the efficacy of antibiotics against the salivary microbiome or determine the increase in stress markers using ELISA. Freshly collected human blood will be handled under a biosafety cabinet unless it has been fixed.

Microbial Agents, Infectious Agents or Toxins*Nakaseomyces glabratus***Biosafety Level**

BSL 1

Risk Group

1

Section of the NIH Guidelines (if applicable)**Score: 01****Committee Decision: 07 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstention****III. REVIEW OF AMENDMENTS**

S/N	Amendments for	Reviewer comments	Decision
1	IBC#98 : CHE 4332: BIOCHEMISTRY II LAB Addition of plasmids		Approved
2	IBC#49 : INSTRUCTIONAL IMMUNOLOGY LAB: LYMPHOID TISSUES AND CELL Addition of <i>Nakaseomyces glabratus</i> (formerly known as <i>Candida glabrata</i>) And Isolated bacterial DNA - <i>Borrelia burgdorferi</i> B31 (BB_0401 GenBank: AAC66768.1, BB_0104 GenBank: AAC66500.2, BB_0103 GenBank: AAC66504.1, BB_0039 GenBank: AAC66424.1, BB_0202 GenBank: AAC66587.1, BB_0203 GenBank: AAC66586.1, BB_0085 GenBank: AAC66475.1)		

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL

S/N	Amendments for	Reviewer comments	Decision
1	IBC#B84: Cardiovascular tissue mechanics and remodeling (Renewal)	Dose not involve rDNA research	

V. EXPIRED / CLOSED PROTOCOLS

None at this time

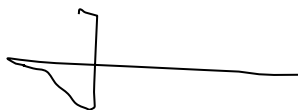
VI. NEW BUSINESS**A. Update from BSO.**

1. The BSB BSL3 lab shutdown is currently in progress. Two new BSCs and new cameras will be installed during this period.
2. MBT BSL3 lab shutdown is scheduled for October 23rd. New cameras will be installed during this period.

B. Open Business:

VII. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 09:41 AM. Next meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 5th, 2025 at 9.00 AM via Teams.



Jose Lopez-Ribot, IBC Chair