UAB The University of Alabama at Birmingham

The UAB Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes
Research Involving Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules
August 13, 2026, 9:00 am

Members	Present (Y/N)	Vote (Y/N)
1. Joel N. Glasgow, PhD, Chair [JNG]	Y	Y
2. Megan Kiedrowski, PhD, Vice-Chair [MRK]	N	N
3. Donna Williamson, MS, RSS [DSW]	N	N
4. Amanda F. Smith, BS, RSS, Voting Contact [AFS]	Y	Y
5. Cameron Crosby, MD, OM [JCC]	N	N
6. Julie Allen, DNP, OM [JSA]	Y	Y
7. Lillie Flood, RN-BSN, JCDH [LF]	Y	Y
8. Qiang (John) Ding, PhD, VA [QJD]	Y	Y
9. Andrea Osborne, DVM, ARP [AJO]	Y	Y
10. Justin Roth, PhD, EHS [JCR]	Y	Y
11. Brian Lagory, BS, BSO-EHS [BEL]	Y	Y
12. Vineel Reddy, PhD, BSO-EHS [VPR]	Y	Y
13. Julie Gray, BS, EHS [JDG]	Y	N
14. Tyler Uzzell, MA, IRB [TWU]	Y	Y
15. Amanda J. Watts, MS, IACUC [AJW]	Y	Y
16. Chad Dunaway, IACUC [CD]	N	N
17. Masakazu Kamata, PhD, Lab Rep [MK]	Y	Y
18. Kevin Harrod, PhD, Lab Rep [KH]	N	N
19. Christine M. Wright, PhD, Lab Rep [CMW]	Y	Y
20. Larisa Pereboeva, PhD, Lab Rep [LP]	Y	Y
21. Theresa Strong, PhD, Lab Rep [TVS]	Y	Y
22. Aftab Ahmad, PhD, Lab Rep [AA]	N	N
23. Adam McClintock, MBA, HSR [AM]	N	N
24. Wesley Willeford, MD, JCDH [WW]	N	N
25. Rebecca Johnstone, Recording Secretary [RMJ]	Y	N
Total	17	14

Guests Present

Joseph Palmer, PhD, SEBLAB [JP]
Susan Pelmer, RSS [SP]
Nick Lenneman, PhD- guest speaker
Phillip Richter, DVM, PhD, ARP [PJR]
Steven Geisler, JD, University Counsel [SG]
Riley Cooper, MS, EHS [RC]
Douglas Fox, PhD, SEBLAB [DMF]
Earle Durboraw, MS, ARP [ED]
Ian Doty, EHS [ID]

The August 13, 2026, Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) meeting for research involving recombinant of synthetic nucleic acid molecules was called to order at 9:02 a.m. via web-based video conferencing tool by the Chair. A quorum was present.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests

The Chair welcomed a faculty member from the Department of Microbiology, who gave a presentation on upcoming work to be conducted in SEBLAB.

Approval of July 09, 2026, Minutes

The July 09, 2026, meeting minutes were distributed in the Committee member's packets via email and/or secure cloud storage prior to the meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded. There were three (3) abstentions. The minutes were approved with amendments.

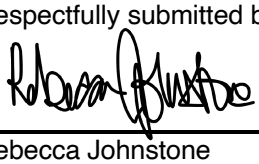
Standing Reports

- In the News/Regulatory Visits – There was no update.
- Faculty Senate – There was no update.
- Veterans Administration – There was no update.
- Employee Health – There was no update.
- ARP/Facilities Operations Report – There was discussion about the operational autoclaves available.
- JCDH – There was no update.
- EHSA – It was reported that development of the bioform and certain reporting functions were ongoing.
- Research Safety Updates
    - PI Arrivals/Departures/UAB Lab Relocations **–** The senior safety officer gave a report of the incoming and departing researchers, as well as campus relocations.
    - Safety Visits – The top five safety issues reported for the past month were: chemical inventory reconciliation, chemical secondary containment, biosafety cabinet certifications, chemical SOPs and spill kit maintenance.
- Ongoing Business
    - The IBC discussed whether the SEBLAB project registration (pr) form was still needed, it was decided to let SEBLAB researchers use the regular pr form.
    - NIH requests re: Executive Order 142902 – The Biosafety Officer (BSO) reminded reviewers to include a Dangerous Gain of Function (DGoF) assessment for research that could potentially fall under this definition.
- New Business
    - The BSO presented a summary of federal policy changes regarding high-risk life sciences research, including new categories for dangerous gain of function research and international research of concern, with compliance requirements and timelines through January 2027.
- Project Review - The review and discussion of projects included: agent characteristics; types of manipulations planned; verification that the PI and laboratory staff performing the research have been appropriately trained in the safe conduct of the research; and containment control measures to be implemented (biosafety level and any special provisions). Please refer to the attached summary of the Committee review outcome for each project.
- Announcements/Discussions – Next meeting date: Thursday, September 10, 2026, 9:00 am

Adjournment

The Chair asked if there were any further questions or comments. Being none, the meeting was adjourned at 11:02 am.

Respectfully submitted by:



September 03, 2026

Rebecca Johnstone Date
Recording Secretary

Project registration documents submitted by the PI indicate UAB Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) review and approval is required for the following research activities involving recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid (r/sNA) molecules and/or biohazardous agents. If the nature of the work changes or the listed conditions cannot be met, it is the PI's responsibility to consult with the IBC for additional guidance. It is the PI's responsibility to ensure all individuals listed on the project are enrolled in and compliant with the requirements of UAB Employee Health prior to and for the duration of the work:

Approve	Not Approve	Abstain or Recuse	RSC #	Evaluation
13	--	--	26-101	**(III.C.1) Arora, Pankaj; A Phase 1/2, First-in-Human, Open-Label, Multicenter, Single-Dose Study to Evaluate the Safety, Tolerability, and Preliminary Efficacy of NVC-001, a Novel Adeno-Associated Virus (Serotype 9) Vector Expressing a Dominant Negative SUN1 Transgene, in Patients with LMNA-Related Dilated Cardiomyopathy** **Reason for IBC:** • Administration of rsNA single-stranded AAV9 vector that encodes a dominant-negative form of naturally occurring human dnSUN1 to one or more human subjects. **Containment Requirements:** • BSL1 practices and procedures may be used for storage and prep of the study drug. • Universal Precaution may be used for administration. • All remaining IP and ancillary exposed materials may be disposed as regulated medical waste or as the sponsor indicates.
13	--	--	26-134	**(III.C.1) Aditi Saha; UAB 2652: A Phase 3, Randomized, Open-Label, Multicenter Study Evaluating the Efficacy of KITE-753 Versus Axicabtagene Ciloleucel in Participants with Relapsed or Refractory Large B-Cell Lymphoma After First-Line Therapy (KT-US-740-0603) (PALISADES-2)** **Reason for IBC:** • Administration of genetically modified CAR-T cells to one or more human subjects. **Containment Requirements:** • Universal Precaution may be used for administration. • All remaining IP and ancillary exposed materials may be disposed as regulated medical waste or as the sponsor indicates.
13	--	--	26-103	**(III.D.1.a) Feroze Ganaie; Investigating Mechanisms of Pneumococcal Vaccine Failure in COPD** **Reason for IBC:** • Experiments with rsNA Streptococcus pneumoniae, a Risk Group 2 bacteria.

				Containment Requirements: • BSL2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biosafety cabinet, will be used for all in vitro work with S. pneumoniae. • An agent-specific safety and data plan will be made available and reviewed by all personnel working with S. pneumoniae.
--	13	--	18-034	**(III.D.1.a) Michael Niederweis; Synergistic siderophore secretion inhibitors against Mycobacterium tuberculosis** **Reason for IBC:** • Generation of mutant and complemented strains of mycobacterium tuberculosis • Drug testing studies using mycobacterium tuberculosis strains. Project deferred pending PI responses to reviewer comments.
13	--	--	26-121	**(III.D.1.a) Michael Niederweis; Molecular Investigation of Siderophore Secretion and Drug Efflux by Mycobacterium tuberculosis** **Reason for IBC:** • Generation of mutant strains in M. tuberculosis mc2 6230 background strain. **Containment Requirements:** • BSL-3 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biosafety cabinet, shall be used for work with M. tuberculosis H37Rv. • BSL-2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biosafety cabinet, shall be used for work with M. tuberculosis mc2 6230; mutant and complemented strains generated in mc2 6230 background.
--	13	--	26-124	**(III.D.1.a) Michael Niederweis; Targeting Virulence Factor Secretion of Mycobacterium Tuberculosis** **Reason for IBC:** • Generation of various deletion mutant strains in M. tuberculosis mc2 6206 (BSL-2), Mtb H37Rv (BSL-3) and Mtb Erdman (BSL-3) strains. Generation of their respective complemented strains using integrating mycobacterial shuttle vector. Project deferred pending PI responses to reviewer comments.
13	--	--	26-091	**(III.D.1) Mary Katherine Sewell-Loftin; A Heart on A Chip Approach** **Reason for IBC:** • In vitro use of 2nd and 3rd generation lentiviral vectors. **Containment Requirements:**

				• BSL2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biosafety cabinet, will be used for all in vitro work with lentiviral vectors and human cells. • The UAB HIV/Lentivirus Exposure Response Plan will be made available and reviewed by all working with HIV, lentiviral vectors, or retroviral vectors.
13	--	--	26-107	**(III.D.1.a) Bo Kuan Wu; Dissecting the Biological Roles of the Hippo-YAP Signaling Pathway in Modulating Liver Diseases** **Reason for IBC:** • Creation and use of lentiviral vectors • Administration of Adeno-associated viral (AAV) vectors to animals. **Containment Requirements:** • BSL2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biosafety cabinet, will be used for all in vitro work with lentiviral vectors. • ABSL2 practices and procedures, including the posting of an AUSI, will be used for 14 days post-administration of AAV vectors, then ABSL1 will be used. • The UAB HIV/Lentivirus Exposure Response Plan will be made available and reviewed by all working with HIV, lentiviral vectors, or retroviral vectors.
13	--	--	26-113	**(III.B.1.b; III.D.4) Taru Dutt; Preventive Esx-5-based Whole-Cell Vaccine Against Mycobacterium Tuberculosis** **Reason for IBC:** • Experiments with an attenuated strain of Mycobacterium tuberculosis The IBC recommends the PI to takes appropriate actions to get approval for working with these attenuated strains at lower containment in BSL-2. For more information, review the FAQs-NIH OSP Review of Requests to Lower the Minimum Required Biosafety Containment Level for Research Subject to the NIH Guidelines and consult with the IBC. **Containment Requirements:** • BSL3/ ABSL3 practices and procedures will be used for all work involving RG3 agents. • An annually certified biosafety cabinet will be used for all work with Mtb strains and handling Mtb infected animals. • A/BSL-3 agent specific training will be provided for all personnel working with Mtb. • Autoclave dirty cages with bedding prior to cleaning and disposal at ABSL-3.

13	--	--	26-115	**(III.D.1; III.E) Sathish Kumar Reddy Padi; Targeting PP2A-MYC Regulatory Mechanisms in High-Risk Pediatric Cancers** **Reason for IBC:** • Work with lentiviral vectors encoding recombinant PP2A subunits and MYC protein fragments. • Work with non-K12 strains of E. coli (BL21/X10) expressing PP2A subunits and MYC protein fragments. **Containment Requirements:** • BSL2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biosafety cabinet, will be used for all in vitro work with lentiviral vectors and human cells. • All BL21 waste will be disposed as regulated medical/biohazard waste. • The UAB HIV/Lentivirus Exposure Response Plan will be made available and reviewed by all working with HIV, lentiviral vectors, or retroviral vectors.
13	--	--	26-111	**(III.D.4) Pran Datta; Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Nano Therapy Targeting STRAP** **Reason for IBC:** • Administration of sh/siRNA via Adeno-associated viral (AAV) to animals. **Containment Requirements:** • ABSL2 practices and procedures, including the posting of an AUSI, will be used for 14 days post-administration of AAV vectors, then ABSL1 may be used.
13	--	--	05-338	**(III.D.3) Jeremy Foote; Role of antibody in suppression of pancreatic cancer development** **Reason for IBC:** • In vitro use of 3rd generation lentiviral vectors to modify human and animal cells. **Containment Requirements:** • BSL2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biosafety cabinet, will be used for all work with lentiviral vectors and/or human cells. • The UAB HIV/Lentivirus Exposure Response Plan will be made available and reviewed by all working with HIV, lentiviral vectors, or retroviral vectors.
13	--	--	26-105	**(III.D.4) Hui Hu; Transcriptional Regulation of CD8+ T Cell Exhaustion** **Reason for IBC:** • Administration of Influenza A virus (IAV) and lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus (LCMV) to animals. • Use of retroviral vectors to modify murine cells. • Administration of r/sNA modified murine cells to animals.

				Containment Requirements: • Enhanced BSL2 (BSL2+) practices and procedures will be used for work with LCMV. • BSL2 practices and procedures will be used for all in vitro work with human cells, IAV, retrovirus. • ABSL1 practices and procedures may be used for the administration of r/sNA modified cells to animals. • ABSL2 practices and procedures, including the posting of an AUSI, must be used for animal work with IAV and LCMV. • An annually certified biosafety cabinet shall be used for all work with IAV, LCMV, and animals infected with these agents. • LCMV animal work must be done in a biosafety approved facility designated for LCMV. • Agent-specific training must be provided and taken by all persons working with IAV and LCMV.
13	--	--	26-106	**(III.D.4.b) Thanh Nguyen; Intravenous And Oral Therapies in Treating Myocardial Injuries** **Reason for IBC:** • Administration of adeno-associated viral (AAV) vectors to animals. **Containment Requirements:** • BSL1 practices and procedures may be used for in vitro manipulations of AAV. • ABSL2 practices and procedures, including the posting of an AUSI for AAV 14 days post AAV administration, will be used, then ABSL1 will suffice.
13	--	--	26-110	**(III.D.4) S. Vamsee Raju; In vivo Efficacy in CF Ferrets to PEpSENS-mediated hCFTR mRNA Therapy** **Reason for IBC:** • Experiments with transgenic animals not in Order Rodentia • Administration of mRNA to animals. **Containment Requirements:** • ABSL2 practices and procedures, including the use of a BSC for administration LNP-mRNA with the potential to create aerosols.
13	--	--	24-036	**(III.D.4) Dario Vitturi; Formation, metabolism and cell signaling actions of tryptophan catabolism-derived electrophiles** **Reason for IBC:** • Administration of Adeno-associated viral (AAV) vectors to animals. **Containment Requirements:**

				• ABSL2 practices and procedures, including the posting of an AUSI, will be used for 14 days post-administration of AAV vectors, then ABSL1 may be used.
13	--	--	26-012	**(III.D.4.a) Yajing Wang; Improving Cardiac Microenvironment as a Novel Strategy against Diabetic Ischemic Heart Failure** **Reason for IBC:** • Administration of Adeno-associated viral (AAV) vectors. • Use of r/sNA adenoviral (Ad) vectors to transfect cells for subsequent administration to animals. **Containment Requirements:** • BSL-1 practices and procedures may be used for AAV. • BSL-2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified BSC must be used for all in vitro work with Ad. • Cultures of Ad and AAV must be spatially or temporally segregated. • An AUSI will be posted for 14 days after last AAV administration to mice and for 4 days after last administration to pigs. • Research staff must consult with EHS on large animal disposition procedures.
13	--	--	26-130	**(III.E) Gino Cingolani; Mechanism of Viral Genome Delivery into Cells** **Reason for IBC:** • Use of non-K-12 derived E. coli strains (BL21). • Use of Pseudomonas aeruginosa, a Risk Group 2 organism. **Containment Requirements:** • All E. coli waste shall be disposed as regulated medical (biohazard waste). • BSL2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biological safety cabinet shall be used for all work with Pseudomonas aeruginosa. • An agent-specific safety and data plan shall be made available and reviewed by all personnel working with P. aeruginosa.
13	--	--	26-119	**(III.E) Michael Niederweis; MspA-based Nanosensors for Biomarker Detection** **Reason for IBC:** • In vitro use of Mycobacterium smegmatis. **Containment Requirements:** • BSL-1 practices and procedures may be used for work with M. smegmatis

				• All M. smegmatis waste must be disposed as biohazard waste.
13	--	--	26-116	**(III.E) Laura Volpicelli-Daley; Decoding Alpha-Synuclein Conformational Diversity to Enable Advanced Predictive Amplification Assays** **Reason for IBC:** • Use of non-K12 derived E. coli. • Generation of Adeno-associated viral (AAV) vectors in human cell lines. **Containment Requirements:** • All BL21 waste must be disposed as biohazard waste. • BSL2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biosafety cabinet, must be used for all work with AAV and human cell lines.
13	--	--	26-117	**(III.E) Laura Volpicelli-Daley; Investigate the Impact of Parkinson's Disease Lysosomal Risk Variants on Lysosomal Function and Alpha-Synuclein Clearance Across CNS Cell Types** **Reason for IBC:** • Use of non-K12 derived E. coli. **Containment Requirements:** • All BL21 waste must be disposed as biohazard waste.
13	--	--	26-122	**(III.E) Laura Volpicelli-Daley; Full Human Gene Replacement Mouse Models of Parkinson's Disease** **Reason for IBC:** • Use of non-K12 derived E. coli. **Containment Requirements:** • All BL21 waste must be disposed as biohazard waste.