



**The UAB Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes
Research Involving Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules
March 12, 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]	Y	Y
4. Amanda F. Smith, BS, RSS, Voting Contact [AFS]	N	N
5. Cameron Crosby, MD, OM [JCC]	Y	Y
6. Julie Allen, DNP, OM [JSA]	N	N
7. Lillie Flood, RN-BSN, JCDH [LF]	Y	Y
8. Qiang (John) Ding, PhD, VA [QJD]	Y	Y
9. Andrea Osborne, DVM, ARP [AJO]	N	N
10. Justin Roth, PhD, EHS [JCR]	Y	N
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. Tyler T. Wright, PhD, Lab Rep [TTW]	Y	Y
18. Masakazu Kamata, PhD, Lab Rep [MK]	N	N
19. Kevin Harrod, PhD, Lab Rep [KH]	N	N
20. Christine M. Wright, PhD, Lab Rep [CMW]	Y	Y
21. Larisa Pereboeva, PhD, Lab Rep [LP]	Y	Y
22. Theresa Strong, PhD, Lab Rep [TVS]	Y	Y
23. Aftab Ahmad, PhD, Lab Rep [AA]	N	N
24. Adam McClintock, MBA, HSR [AM]	N	N
25. Wesley Willeford, MD, JCDH [WW]	N	N
26. Rebecca Johnstone, RSS, Recording Secretary [RMJ]	Y	N
Total	16	13

Guests Present

Laura Caltrider, EHS [LPC]	Stephen Geisler, JD [SG]
Dale Payton, ARP [DP]	Douglas Fox, SEBLAB [DMF]
Joseph Palmer, SEBLAB [JP]	Earle Durboraw, ARP [ED]
Ian Doty, EHS [ID]	

The March 12, 2026, Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) meeting for research involving recombinant of synthetic nucleic acid molecules was called to order at 9:03 am via web-based video conferencing tool by the Vice Chair. A quorum was present.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests

The Chair welcomed all in attendance.

Approval of the February 12, 2026, Minutes

The February 2026, meeting minutes were distributed in the Committee member packet via email and/or secure cloud storage prior to the meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded. There was one abstention. The minutes were approved.

Standing Reports

- In the News/Regulatory Visits – VPR new BSO.
- Faculty Senate – There were no updates.
- Veterans Administration – There were no updates.
- Employee Health – There were no updates.
- ARP/Facilities Operations – An update was provided about ARP autoclave maintenance schedule.
- JCDH – There were no updates.
- IRAP and EHSA – There were no updates.
- Research Safety Updates:
 - PI Arrivals/Departures/UAB Lab Relocations –
Arrivals: Jie Yang, PhD
 - Safety Visits – The main corrective actions that were addressed in lab audits were enrollment with Employee Health, reconciliation of chemical inventories, peroxide-former storage and testing, mislabeling/expiration dates, and improper chemical storage

New/Old Business

Old Business – The working group discussed the AUSI draft developed to introduce recombinant icon, and the ARP Safety Program was discussed to increase awareness of changes to form and safer practices.

New Business – The IBC discussed Executive Order 14292 addressing Gain of Function research and a matrix of risk groups was introduced.

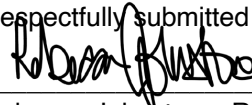
The committee discussed NIH Guidelines compliance and ways to raise awareness for compliance requirements. The IBC approved the NIH Incident Report that was to be submitted as written.

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.

Transgenic Projects - No transgenic projects were discussed at this meeting.

Adjournment - The Chair asked if there were any further questions or comments. Being none, the meeting was adjourned at 10:44 am. The next meeting date is April 09, 2026, 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted by:



Rebecca Johnstone, Recording Secretary
Research Safety Committees

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	--	--	26-030	<p>(III.D.4.a) Feroze Ganaie: Mechanism of capsule synthesis in Streptococcus pneumoniae</p> <p>Reason for IBC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutants of Streptococcus pneumoniae (S. pneumoniae), a Risk Group 2 organism. <p>Containment Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSL-2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biosafety cabinet, must be used for all work with S. pneumoniae mutants. An agent-specific safety and data plan must be prepared and made available to all working with S. pneumoniae mutants.
13	--	--	26-023	<p>(III.C.1) Amitha Ananth: ASPIRE 201 Study: A Multicenter, Open-Label Study of the Safety, Tolerability, and Preliminary Efficacy of a Single Intrathecal Administration of TSHA-102, an AAV9-Delivered Gene Therapy, for the Treatment of Pediatric Females Aged >2 to <4 Years with Rett Syndrome</p> <p>Reason for IBC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration of rsNA Adeno-associated viral vector encoding miniMECP2 gene to one or more human subjects <p>Containment Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Universal precautions will be used for storage, preparation, and administration of the investigational product. Respiratory protection is recommended for those present in the OR suite for administration. Any unused IP and any potentially contaminated materials will be disposed as medical waste or per the sponsor's instructions.
13	--	--	26-019	<p>(III.D.4.b) Tony Merriman: Translational Genomics in Gout: From GWAS Signal to Mechanism</p> <p>Reason for IBC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transgenic Danio rerio will be generated using CRISPR/Cas9 editing and subsequent breeding <p>Containment Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any recombinant material in the lab must be disposed as biohazard waste. Transgenic fish embryos, larvae, and adults must be disposed per established UAB ARP guidelines for transgenic fish.
--	13	--	26-015	<p>(III.D.1.a, III.D.4.b) Andrew Uljasz: A Novel Family of Conserved Glyoxal Toxicity Response Proteins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project deferred to April IBC pending further review

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--	13	--	26-012	<p>(III.D.4.A) Yajing Wang: Improving Cardiac Microenvironment as a Novel Strategy against Diabetic Ischemic Heart Failure</p> <p>Project deferred to April IBC pending further review</p>