CSU IBC Meeting Minutes

Meeting title	CSU IBC Meeting May 2026
Date	May 13, 2026
Convened at	8:31am
Location	TMI Rm 222
Open or closed meeting (If closed, why?)	The meeting was closed briefly to discuss personal, proprietary, and/or security matters. The meeting was open the remainder of the time.
Review of prior meeting minutes	April 8, 2026 meeting minutes were approved as written.
Adjournment	9:36am
Recorded by	C. Johnson

Attendees

Check if Attending (Members):	**Check if Attending (Alternate Members):**
☒ Jessica Ayers, Animal expert	☐ Lon Kendall, Director LAR
☒ Donald Bade, Unaffiliated	
☒ Angela Bosco-Lauth, Associate Chair	
☒ Joshua Chan, Synthetic biology	
☒ Chaoping Chen, Chair	
☒ Jason Cummings, lab representative	
☒ Dan Frazen, Unaffiliated	
☒ Brendan Podell, Mycobacteria specialist	
☐ Ann Powers, Virology	
☒ Robyn Roberts, Plant expert	
☒ Joanie Ryan, Assistant Biosafety Director	☐ Rebecca Moritz, Biosafety Office Director*
☒ Tony Schountz, Virology	☒ Christine Johnson, IBC/IRE Manager, Alternate-at-Large*
Quorum = 7 voting members; _11_ in attendance	*non-voting at this meeting
Non-Voting Members:	
☐	
☐ Joni Van Sickle, Occupational Health Coord.	
ORCC Staff (non-voting):	
☐ Michelle Ramey, Assistant Compliance Coord.	☐ Sonia Aleman Rivera, Assistant Biosafety Officer
☐ Nicole Marlenee, Biosecurity Specialist	☒ Kelly Kim, Assistant Biosafety Officer
☒ Scott Van Scotter, Biosafety Trainer	
Additional Guests:	
Mario Arango, OGC	

Quorum was maintained throughout. Any member with a conflict of interest left the meeting during discussion and/or committee determination on the conflicted items.

1. **Review of April 8, 2026 IBC meeting minutes**
   The April 8, 2026 minutes were approved as written.

2. **Agent/Project Review**

a. PI name/Lab	**Akkina Lab**
Project Number and Title	**26-016B: Modeling stem-cell-based gene therapy for HIV using artificial thymic organoid system**
Project Overview	The primary goal of this proposal is to exploit the novel 3D artificial thymic organoid system (ATO) that permits T cell differentiation from gene transduced hematopoietic stem cells as a viable alternative to humanized mice animal models to test stem-cell-based HIV gene therapy strategies.
Planned Modifications	generate anti-HIV gene expressing T cells
Agents used	• HIV-1 • HIV/SIV Lentiviral Virus Vectors
NIH Guidelines Section	III-D-1, III-D-3
Proposed containment conditions (BSL, ABSL, etc.)	BSL2+
Discussion	This is a very established lab. Items discussed: 1. Specify the source of the artificial thymic organoid system. Is it being generated in the lab or purchased? 2. Request adding the artificial thymic organoid as an associated biological material under Tissues/Fluid. 3. Clarify the use of the mouse stromal cells. 4. Clarify bleach and autoclave procedures. 5. Human tissues and cell lines should be changed to BSL-2. 6. Viral Vector Registration Form-HIV/SIV Lentiviral Virus Vectors: more details requested.
Verification of training	All training is up to date.
Verification of facilities	The Lab is up to date on inspections.
Motion	A motion was made to approve the project with modifications described above (see Discussion).
Vote	The motion was unanimously approved.
b. PI name/Lab	**Foy Lab**
Project Number and Title	**26-021B: Exploiting probiotic delivery of a novel oral subunit vaccine against highly pathogenic avian influenza**
Project Overview	This project involves developing a vaccine for poultry against Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza viruses using recombinant Lactobacillus acidophilus that expresses immunogenic proteins from these viruses. This project is being done in collaboration with two other labs.
Planned Modifications	In vivo immunization with rLA
Agents used	• recombinant Lactobacillus acidophilus • Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza virus
NIH Guidelines Section	III-D-4

Proposed containment conditions (BSL, ABSL, etc.)	BSL3/ABSL3
Discussion	This is a highly experienced lab. The comments are mostly related to the logistics of the collaboration and who is doing what. 1) Please clearly state which group lab is working on which parts of the project. For example, who is making the rLA constructs and who is doing the challenge studies. 2) Where is the HPAI infection going to occur? 3) Where will the initial immunity assessment occur and in which animals? 4) What PPE will be worn? Specify differences if multiple containment levels will be used in this Lab. 5) Please describe decontamination procedures. If immunity assessment is happening at ABSL-2, any material contaminated with rLA must be decontaminated before disposal 6) Please clarify how M. bovis BCG is used in the project.
Verification of training	All training is up to date.
Verification of facilities	The Lab is up to date on inspections.
Motion	A motion was made to approve the project with modifications described above (see Discussion).
Vote	The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Amendments requiring full IBC review

c. PI name/Lab	**SiVEC (Linke) Lab**
Project Number and Title	**20-019B: E. coli laboratory cloning strain transformation and molecular cloning activities**
Project Overview	The overarching objective of this work is to evaluate the potential for the bacteria and plasmid system to be used in possible therapeutic applications for the treatment of various diseases
Planned Modifications	General transformation and molecular cloning; transformed bacteria will be evaluated in vitro and in vivo
Agents used	• Escherichia coli
NIH Guidelines Section	III-D-4
Proposed containment conditions (BSL, ABSL, etc.)	BSL1/ABSL1
Amendment request	Adding cell lines, an animal model, and source molecules
Discussion	1. Request that all cell lines that will be used in the project be listed. 2. Please specify how the rabbits will be exposed to E. coli. 3. Is there any evidence that shows whether the E. coli is sheds in animal waste? If it is known to be shed, how will the waste be contained and decontaminated. 4. What types of mRNA molecules are being added to the products expressed?

Verification of training	All training is up to date.
Verification of facilities	The Lab is up to date on inspections.
Motion	A motion was made to approve the project with modifications described above (see Discussion).
Vote	The motion was unanimously approved.
d. PI name/Lab	**Thamm Lab**
Project Number and Title	**19-038B: Cellular Immunotherapy for Canine Cancers**
Project Overview	The goal of this project is to develop canine CAR T cells and evaluate in vitro and in vivo.
Planned Modifications	Use SIN lentiviral vectors to generate canine CAR T cells
Agents used	• 3rd generation SIN (self-inactivating) lentiviral vector
NIH Guidelines Section	III-D-4
Proposed containment conditions (BSL, ABSL, etc.)	BSL2/ABSL2
Amendment request	Request to lower in vivo containment level to ABSL1
Discussion	This is a well established PI, who has been doing this type of work for a long time. The safety of CAR T cells has been demonstrated in several different animal models and there has been no evidence of shedding. Additionally, by the time the cells are infused into the animals, there is no viable virus present. The IBC had no concerns with lowering the containment level.
Verification of training	All training is up to date.
Verification of facilities	The Lab is up to date on inspections.
Motion	A motion was made to approve the project as written.
Vote	The motion was unanimously approved.
e. PI name/Lab	**Woerman Lab – Assigned Reviewers: Joanie, Jessica, Jason**
Project Number and Title	**23-039B: Investigating prion strain biology**
Project Overview	This project investigates the mechanisms by which the proteins tau and alpha-synuclein misfold into prions, how the proteins misfold into different shapes (or strains) to cause unique neurodegenerative disorders, the pathogenesis of each prion strain, and tools for diagnosing and treating patients with these disorders.
Planned Modifications	Use AAVs to deliver the CRISPR machinery to insert a protective mutation
Agents used	• rAAV
NIH Guidelines Section	III-D-2; III-D-4
Proposed containment conditions (BSL, ABSL, etc.)	BSL2+/ABSL2+
Amendment request	Requesting a change in animal housing/waste handling
Discussion	The PI provided an article indicating no evidence of shedding of these proteins; the PI has never observed evidence of shedding in their lab. Because of this, the PI is requesting to switch to regular

	animal cages and to autoclave them at the regular settings, instead of using disposable cages. Clarification requested in the last sentence to explicitly state that the animal bedding and cages will be autoclaved using standard perimeters instead of the prion autoclave settings.
Verification of training	All training is up to date.
Verification of facilities	The Lab is up to date on inspections.
Motion	A motion was made to approve the project with modifications described above (see Discussion).
Vote	The motion was unanimously approved.

4. **New Business**
    a. **IBC Membership updates**
        i. **Associate Chair nominee** – since Dr. Bosco-Lauth will be stepping into the Chair position in July, the committee needs to nominate a new candidate for Associate Chair. Dr. Roberts was discussed as a potential candidate. The committee agreed that she would be a good candidate and recommended moving forward with her nomination.
        ii. **Community member nominees** – non-affiliated member, Dan Frazen, will not be renewing his membership in July, thus the committee needs to identify a new non-affiliated member. Two potential candidates were discussed. The committee wanted more time to review the candidates and agreed to submit their responses via email.
        iii. **Plant member nominees** – the IBC historically had two plant experts on the committee and decided that it would be helpful to have two plant members again. A couple of potential candidates were discussed and the committee decided to recommend Dr. Marc Nishimura for the nomination.

    It should be noted that all nominations will have to go through approval by the VPR.

5. **Unfinished Business**
    a. **NIH Initiative to Modernize and Strengthen Biosafety Oversight** – no updates (https://osp.od.nih.gov/policies/biosafety-and-biosecurity-policy#tab2/)

6. **Closed Session**
    The meeting was closed briefly to discuss personal, proprietary, and/or security matters not subject to the NIH Guidelines.

7. **Reports**

a. Coordinator's Report	1. Next IBC meeting: Wednesday, June 10, 2026 – cancel or reschedule? Several members will be unavailable to meet on June 10th and the possibility of canceling the meeting was discussed. It was decided that if any protocols

	were received by the deadline, that the meeting would be rescheduled; if there were no protocols by the deadline, the meeting would be canceled.
b. Biosafety Office Report	1. Inspections update: no updates at this time 2. Incident Reports: no incidents involving rDNA to report

8. Public Comment

NA – no public attendees

9. Items to be read into the minutes

a. Items Reviewed at Previous IBC Meeting and Approved After Modification were completed	a. **Lark Lab** **Project:** Skeletal Muscle Trafficking of Extracellular Vesicles (26-014B); BSL2; NIH Guidelines category non-exempt rDNA: III-D-1; III-D-3 b. **Schorr Lab** **Project:** Oral vaccination of bats against white-nose syndrome (26-016B); BSL1; NIH Guidelines category non-exempt rDNA: III-D-4 c. **Dean Lab** **Project:** A novel oral subunit vaccine against highly pathogenic avian influenza in poultry (26-017B); BSL2/ABSL2; NIH Guidelines category non-exempt rDNA: III-D-2; III-D-4 d. **Schountz Lab** **Project:** Manipulation of host cell responses by New World hantaviruses (13-098B); BSL3/ABSL3; NIH Guidelines category non-exempt rDNA: NA