



Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes

Rector Science Complex, Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA

Date: 09/18/2026 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT

Meeting Type: Virtual Platform, i.e. Zoom

Members Present:

Kirsten Guss, Biology, IBC Chair

Allysa Decker, Environmental Studies, Plant Expert

Tiffany Frey, Biology

Kristen McGough, Cumberland County Forensic Laboratory, Local Non-affiliated Member

David Runkle, Borough of Carlisle, Local Non-affiliated Member

Members Excused

None

Non-Voting Members Present:

Joshua Ford, Office of General Counsel, Administrative Liaison

Matthew Richwine, Director of Compliance and Risk Management

A quorum was established.

The IBC Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 1:05 PM

I. Review and approval of previous meeting minutes

Minutes from the 04/17/2026 meeting were reviewed and approved by all voting members.

II. Review of Prior Business

A. Annual Reports Reviewed and Approved

1. **PI:** Rebecca Connor
IBC protocol: # 1337 - Expression and Purification of Fluorescent Proteins in *E. coli* for CHEM 342
2. **PI:** Rebecca Connor
IBC protocol: # 1339 - Mutation, expression and purification of heat shock protein 70 (HSP70) – IV
3. **PI:** Dana Somers
IBC protocol: # 1336 - UV Mutagenesis of DNA-repair deficient yeast
4. **PI:** Michael Roberts
IBC protocol: #1334 - Targeted Therapy for Oncogenic RAS Signaling in Leukemia Cells
5. **PI:** Kirsten Guss
IBC protocol: # 1228 - 2024 Protein Misexpression in *Drosophila melanogaster*. (Amended, see below)
6. **PI:** David Kushner
IBC Protocol: #1332 - Analysis of TCV and satC RNA (Amended, see below)

III. New IBC Protocols (Registrations) and Amendments for Review

A. New Protocols

1. **PI:** Kirsten Guss

IBC protocol: #1435 - 2026 Mutations Investigations in *Drosophila melanogaster*.

Project overview: The purpose of this research is to investigate the phenotypes that result from mutations in the *scalloped*, *vestigial*, and/or *yorkie* genes of *Drosophila melanogaster*. These genes are of interest because the cognate proteins function together to control gene expression in different developmental contexts during fruit fly development.

NIH Guideline Section: Section III-D-4-a

Risk assessment: None of this work poses any harm to humans if standard lab procedures are followed. The experiments do not involve release into the environment and do not involve blood or other potentially infectious materials. Recommend approval.

Training: PI is up to date on all IBC biosafety training; all TAs/students will be directed to complete requisite CITI courses: Biosafety For Investigators and NIH Recombinant DNA Guidelines. Participating staff and students will be trained in standard laboratory safety practices.

Biosafety Level Assignment: Level 1

IBC Vote: Motion was made to approve protocol with minor revisions to the sanitation description and an assurance all TAs/students will complete CITI training. [The review process for this protocol was led by Vice Chair Tiffany Frey.]

2. **PI:** Claire Mammoser

IBC protocol: #1434 - Investigation of Conformational Heterogeneity in Lanthanide Ion-binding Proteins.

Project overview: This work will involve the use of genes encoding M. extorquens lanmodulin, a non-infectious, non-virulent protein, expressed in E. coli.

NIH Guideline Section: Section III-E-1

Risk assessment: None of this work poses any harm to humans if standard lab procedures are followed. The experiments do not involve release into the environment and do not involve blood or other potentially infectious materials. Recommend approval.

Training: PI is not up to date on IBC biosafety training and will be directed to complete: NIH Recombinant DNA (rDNA) Guidelines; Biosafety for Investigators; and Conflict of Interest. All TAs/students supporting the captioned protocol will be directed to complete requisite CITI courses: Biosafety For Investigators and NIH Recombinant DNA Guidelines. Participating staff and students will be trained in standard laboratory safety practices.

Biosafety Level Assignment: Level 1

IBC Vote: Motion was made to approve protocol with minor revisions, i.e. complete section 4e (Risk Group) in the Application Section; list the product details for the cell lines and plasmids used; and assure PI and all TAs/students complete CITI training.

3. **PI:** Rebecca Connor

IBC protocol: #1433 - Transfection of Hela/Hek293T/RKO/ HL60/THP-1 Cells for Luciferase Monitoring of Heat Shock Induction (III).

Project overview: In this protocol, plasmids will be transfected into a variety of cell lines (HEK293T, HeLa, RKO, HL60, and THP-1) using Lipofectamine or polyethylenamine for in situ luciferase evaluation of activation of the heat shock transcription factor.

NIH Guideline Section: Section III-D

Risk assessment: None of this work poses any harm to humans if standard lab procedures are followed. Level 2 biosafety assignment may require completion of Medical Surveillance form.

Training: PI is not up to date on IBC biosafety training and will be directed to complete: NIH Recombinant DNA (rDNA) Guidelines; Biosafety for Investigators; and Conflict of Interest. All TAs/students supporting the captioned protocol will be directed to complete requisite CITI courses: Biosafety For Investigators and NIH Recombinant DNA Guidelines. Participating staff and students will be trained in standard laboratory safety practices.

Biosafety Level Assignment: Level 2

IBC Vote: Motion was made to not approve the protocol; revisions were requested to distinguish the appropriate Biosafety Level, provide more details on infectious agents used, list the product details for the cell lines and plasmids used, correct “2019” references in protocol application section, and determine the need for Medical Surveillance forms.

B. New Amendments

1. **PI:** Kirsten Guss

IBC protocol: # 1228 - 2024 Protein Misexpression in Drosophila melanogaster.

Amendment: Change to waste disposal method.

2. **PI:** David Kushner

IBC protocol: # 1332 – Analysis of TCV and satC RNA.

Amendment: Change in participating students.

C. Acknowledged Terminations

1. **PI:** Rebecca Connor

IBC protocol: # 1160 - Copy of Transfection of Hela/Hek293T/RKO/HL60/THP-1 cells for luciferase monitoring of heat shock induction III.

D. Committee Business

Per request from faculty, IBC Meeting dates will be moved to the following three time periods:

Fall Semester – The IBC will convene during the second week of Fall semester.

Spring Semester – The IBC will convene during the second week of Spring semester.

Summer – The IBC will convene during the last week of April.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Joshua Ford