Approved: 4/30/2026

Minutes
March 26th, 2026
Institutional Biosafety Committee
233 Scott Hall

Attendance

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Non-Members Present:
T. Oomens (Chair)	W. Kipgen (Alt)	John Kane
E. Lutter (Vice-Chair)	R. Matts	
A. Fewell (BSO)	S. McFee (Alt)	
V. Freeman (Alt)	A. Mitra (Alt)	
A. Hall (Alt)	A. Ramachandran	
J. Gallaway	B. Holcomb	
M. Cabeen	J. Olson (Alt)	
J. Ballard (Alt)	D. Maples (Alt)	
D. Cunningham	M. Hinsdale	
K. Southworth	B. Epperley (Alt)	
D. Christensen (Alt)	C. Franks	
	M. Arif	

Note: In the event that both a member and their alternate are present, only the primary member's vote will count unless the primary member allows the alternate to vote in their place.

Call to Order - With a quorum present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

M. Cabeen arrived at 10:01 a.m.

Approval of the January 29th, 2026 minutes – A motion was made to approve by T. Oomens and seconded by D. Cunningham, majority vote was recorded, and the minutes were approved. J. Ballard, M. Cabeen, K. Southworth and D. Christensen abstained.

Old Business

A. Protocol/Modification Update

1. 26-1 Erika Lutter, "1) Chlamydiae - host cell interactions. 2) Pseudomonas polymicrobial interactions"
Approved – 1/30/26

2. 26-2 Tom Oomens, "Molecular manipulation of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) for fundamental structure/function analyses and for generation and testing of live-attenuated and subunit vaccine candidates in vitro and in vivo."
Approved – 1/29/26

3. 25-21 Glenn Zhang, "Use of Infectious Agents in 213 ANSI"
Approved – 2/11/26

4. 25-22 Andres Espindola Camacho, "High-throughput sequencing as a detection tool of plant pathogens and plant-associated microbiome." - Modification
Approved – 2/24/26

5. 25-16 Lin Liu, "Pathogenesis and Therapy of Respiratory and Infectious Diseases." - Modification

Waiting on equipment to arrive to evaluate.

New Business

B. Protocols/Modifications for Review by Full Committee

1. 26-4 Rolf Prade, "Energy corn for ethanol production"

Category: Biological Agent and r(s)NA

NIH Guidelines: III-E, III-F

Source of DNA: PCR products encoding plant cell wall degrading enzymes from bacterial and fungal sources.

Vector(s): pUC18, pUC19, pBluescript, pGEM, pEXPYR and other lambda-derived plasmids.

Recipient Host(s): *E. coli* XL1-Blue, SURE, TOP10, TOP10f

Biosafety Level: BSL-1

Project Summary:

This is a renewal of Dr. Prade's 16-12 IBC protocol. No major changes have been made. Dr. Prade's lab produces recombinant *Pichia pastoris*, *Aspergillus awamori*, and *Aspergillus nidulans* strains expressing engineered plant cell wall degrading enzymes. The target genes will be identified by bioinformatics, and the genes will be amplified by PCR and engineered into *Pichia pastoris* and *Aspergillus awamori* expression and secretion strains. Proteins will be isolated from the medium and purified for further studies.

A. Fewell explained that the protocol was a renewal submission with no significant changes and that Dr. Prade's lab inspections were up to date. Several minor typos were identified to be corrected.

Items to be addressed:

1. NIH Section III-E-1 needs to be selected.
2. Misspelling of "allergens" as "allergenes".
3. Add 15 psi to autoclave parameters.
4. For sharps containers specify "hard walled containers" and attach IBC Sharps SOP.

Motion to approve was made by A. Hall and seconded by M. Cabeen, majority vote was recorded, and the protocol was approved pending minor edits.

2. 26-5 Mayara Maggioli & Fernando Bauermann, "Construction and testing of bovine respiratory syncytial virus (bRSV) infectious clones and host factors influencing viral entry and replication."

Category: Biological Agent and r(s)NA
NIH Guidelines: III-D-1, III-D-2, III-D-3, III-D-4, III-E-1, III-F
Source of DNA: Bovine Respiratory Syncytial virus
Vector(s): Various plasmids including: PBR, T7optinpCAGGS, mCherry-PH, pCAG-VSVG.
Recipient Host(s): *E. coli* (k12 and derived strains), Sf9 (insect cell line)
Biosafety Level: BSL-2
Project Summary:
This is a renewal of Dr. Maggioli and Dr. Bauermann's 20-9 IBC protocol. No major changes have been made. Their lab aims to generate recombinant vaccines that can be delivered at the respiratory mucosa, bypassing maternal immunity to infect the host, deeming them unable to complete their replication cycle. Such vaccines are not able to cause disease nor spread from one animal to another as a live vaccine lessening safety concerns. Specifically, they will construct bRSV cDNA for generation of recombinant bRSV viruses, test vaccines in calves, and investigate the potential host factor of anti-viral strategies.

A. Fewell explained that the protocol was a renewal submission with no significant changes. A. Fewell did explain that additional NIH classifications were selected on this submission compared to the prior protocol. The committee engaged in discussion about prior animal work performed under the protocol. It was acknowledged that a new IBC lab inspection of an ABSL space and verification of procedures would need to occur before animal work could commence under this protocol. There were also several typos identified.

Items to be addressed:
1. IBC lab inspection and verification of proper procedures required for ABSL space before animal work can commence.
2. Foreign national status needs corrected for one lab personnel.
3. Correct several other misspelling typos throughout the protocol.

Motion to approve was made by D. Cunningham and seconded by E. Lutter, majority vote was recorded, and the protocol was approved pending minor edits.

D. Cunningham left at 10:59 a.m.

3. 23-26 Kelly Craven, "Tapping soil microbiomes to enhance winter wheat productivity and stress resilience/Identification of novel components in stress granule and P-body formation and functioning." – Modification

Category: Biological Agent and r(s)NA
NIH Guidelines: III-D-5 and /or III-E-2, III-F
Source of DNA: Commercially-available plasmid for tagging a stress granule gene.
Vector(s): pOCC240-MBP-Pab1-mCherry
Recipient Host(s): Saccharomyces cereviseae
Biosafety Level: BSL-1
Project Summary:

Dr. Craven previously aimed to isolate new microbial endophytes (fungal and bacterial) from the roots of wheat cultivars grown for multiple years at Oklahoma and Texas field sites. Dr. Craven is modifying his current BSL-1 protocol to include a new project that involves some r(s)NA work. He proposes to localize the ScSg-1 protein in yeast cells using a "universal" stress granule marker. To accomplish this, he will genetically transform a GFP-tagged yeast strain with a commercially available plasmid. This dually transformed yeast strain will be used to localize both SgSm-1 and stress granules. If his hypothesis is correct, he predicts that treating the cells with one or more already defined stresses will allow him to co-localize his proteins of interest.

A. Fewell explained that Dr. Craven is adding recombinant work to his existing BSL-1 protocol, he had no concerns. Dr. Craven's lab inspections were up to date. Other than a few typos, the committee had no other concerns.

Items to be addressed:

1. Correct the misspelling of "Cerevisiae".
2. Specify "closed-toed shoes" will be worn in the lab.

Motion to approve was made by T. Oomens and seconded by M. Cabeen, majority vote was recorded, and the protocol was approved pending minor edits.

C. Miscellaneous Business

- Lab Coat Laundry Policy – The committee reviewed the policy and determined that no additional revisions were necessary.
- Bloodborne Pathogens Policy – A. Fewell informed the committee he updated the wording to agree with the current process involving EHS and our OneAegis protocol system. K. Southworth also requested the bullet points be formatted as the same.
- A. Fewell announced several retirements at OSU that affected the committee.
- A. Fewell informed the committee of an upcoming CDC inspection expected in April.

Adjourn- The meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.