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## Institutional Biosafety Committee

### Minutes October 14, 2025 Zoom Meeting Start time: 3:00pm End time: 3:34pm

- Members Present:  
Katherine Chadwell, IBC Chair DNP, APRN, GNP-BC, GCNS, CPHQ, College of Nursing  
Nicole Compo, DVM, DVSc, Attending Veterinarian  
Frank Novembre, Ph.D., Biological Safety Officer, EH&S  
Patricia Lord, Pharm.D, Non-Affiliated Community Member  
Alex Mavrelis, B.S., Non-Affiliated, Community Member  
Andrew Oleinikov, Ph.D., Professor of Biomedical Science, College of Medicine  
Qi Zhang, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry, College of Science
- Others Present:  
Elisa Gaucher, M.B.A., Assistant Vice President for Research Integrity  
Kristen Ware, Ph.D., Associate Director, Animal Research Protections Program  
Andrew Donovan, B.A., IBC Coordinator

## 1 Welcome

- Notice of Recording
- Confidentiality Disclosure
- Conflict of Interest Disclosure
- Review of Meeting Minutes from September 9, 2025
- **Motion: To approve minutes**  
**Motion Seconded and Unanimously Approved**

## 2 Expedited Reviews

- **B25-30** – Guzman, Esther: *Cancer Cell Biology Work*
- **B25-35** – Malina, Natalia: *Microalgae Incubation*
- **B25-34** – Cudic, Predrag: *Synthesis and Characterization of Cyclic Peptide-based Bacterial Biofilm Inhibitors*

### 3 Administrative Amendments

- **B23-07.06** – Fontenas, Laura: *Dissect the MEP Glia Gene Expression Profile*
- **B23-14.02** – Kantorow, Marc: *Hypoxia Regulation of the Lens*

### 4 Committee Reviews

- **B25-29.01** – Wang, Yingcai: *Identification of Epigenetic Mechanisms of Resistance to Chemotherapy in Pediatric Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia*
  - This is an amendment to a previously approved registration adding viral vectors.
  - The modified cell lines created will be used for epigenetic analysis targeting childhood leukemia.
  - The project summary is repeated several times and should be amended.
  - The handling of the new viral vectors should be described in more detail, specifically the storage and preparation.
  - The Viral Vector form should be more clear as to what genes will be transfected or knocked out and whether genes will be included whole or in part.
  - The use of WA01 ES cells should be described in the details section.
  - Other procedures described are appropriate for BSL-2
- **Motion: To approve pending requested modifications**  
**Motion Seconded and Unanimously Approved**
- **B25-36** – Parise, Lyonna: *Peripheral Effectors in Alcohol and Stress-induced Stress Susceptibility*
  - This is a new project from a new PI.
  - This project will study how the activation or inhibition of certain neurons will affect behavior of animals under the influence of various substances.
  - The project will use AAV by stereotactic injection. There are three genes in use, one that activates the neuron, one that inhibits the neuron and one that prevents protein interactions that deal with blood brain barrier integrity.
  - The handling and disposal of tissues should be described in more detail.
  - Other biosafety information provided is sufficient for BSL-2.
- **Motion: To approve pending requested modifications**  
**Motion Seconded and Unanimously Approved**

## 5 Other Business

- **NIH email** – NIH Launches Comprehensive Effort to Modernize Biosafety Framework
  - The NIH has rescinded the new DURC-PEPP policy requirements and has not issued guidance regarding a replacement policy. FAU's policy remains in place, but the policy document is on hold.
  - The NIH also issued an email regarding a new "Biosafety Modernization Initiative."
  - This is independent from the new DURC-PEPP policy and will update the entirety of the NIH Guidelines.
  - The NIH hosted a listening session regarding their current position on new guidelines:
    - \* The new guidelines will shift from a technique-based focus to a risk-based focus.
    - \* Some research involving recombinant DNA may be removed from oversight, and some other areas, including areas not related to recombinant DNA may require new oversight based on risk.
    - \* Three options were proposed:
      - An updated NIH Guidelines based on the existing document.
      - A new set of guidelines based on the BMBL.
      - A new set of guidelines created from scratch.
    - \* Future listening sessions have not been scheduled do to the current shut down.
  - The current timeline is for the policy to be released in the fall of next year.