

INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

June 21, 2016

3 PM, 410 Plant Biotechnology Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair, Jun Lin; David Bemis, Tamara Chavez-Lindell, Paul Dalhaimer, Doris D'Souza, Elizabeth Fozo, Reza Hajimorad, Al Iannacone, Reggie Millwood, Deidra Mountain, Jae Park, Ling Zhao

Ex-Officio – Linda Hamilton, Brian Ranger, Mark Smith, Jessica Woofter

MEMBERS ABSENT: Seung Baek, Patti Coan, Brittany Isabell, Melissa Kennedy

OTHERS PRESENT: None

Opening:

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Jun Lin at 3:00 PM. The minutes of May 18, 2016 were reviewed and approved pending correction of typographical errors. There were 2 abstentions.

IBC Applications:

#404-16 (Steven Wilhelm) Recombinant DNA Registration, III-D-2-a, 3-year rewrite

Dr. Wilhelm's registration covers his research using insertion of a gene cassette encoding the cyanobacterial toxin, microcystin (from *Microcystis aeruginosa*), to *E. coli* Nissle1917 (B-strain) as well as the cyanobacterium *Synechococcus* PCC 7942 to examine the effects of heterologous expression in cells that do not make this toxin. Experiments involving potentially infectious and toxin producing agents will be conducted in a BSC using BSL-2 precautions and procedures. The committee voted to approve the registration pending: correction of minor typographical errors; clarification of procedures associated with murine malaria models; PI assessment of likelihood of adverse/off-effects from the heterologous expression in an *E. coli* host (e.g. unusual toxin forms or other potentially hazardous byproducts); an update on autoclave repairs in SERF; and recertification of the Class II biosafety cabinet. The committee was also informed that the final approved registration would be submitted to NIH OBA per NIH Guidelines, Appendix F requirements.

Old Business:

Administrative Report

Brian Ranger provided the Committee with the administrative report. Following up on May 18, 2016, IBC meeting, Dr. David Golden's registration (#299-16) was corrected to include updated personnel training dates and clarification that work will be conducted in FSP 119 and not FSP 19. Dr. Faith Critzer's registration (#399-16) was corrected to include updated personnel training dates (though Dr. Critzer's refresher training is pending). Dr. Colleen Jonsson's registration (#434) was updated to include BSL-3 facility upgrades to ensure containment and that follow-up verification testing has been completed. Verification of BSL-3 competency and SOP congruency by users is still in process. Dr. Reza Hajimorad's registration (#207-14) was administratively amended to include development of plasmid constructs and screening replication origins, gene expression, and selection markers in *Shewanella oneidensis* (Risk Group 1 metal-reducing proteobacterium found in soil or water). Dr. Mark Radosevich's registration (#301-13) was administratively terminated as the project is idle and all materials will remain in secure storage for use upon reregistering with the IBC. Dr. Rebecca Wilkes' registrations (#400 & #401) have been administratively terminated and all materials have been destroyed or transferred to the University of Georgia. Linda Hamilton provided a brief update of laboratory

inspections. Eyewashes are still an issue. Other areas of emphasis include documentation of site-specific training and aerosol containment/control procedures.

BSL-3 Updates

Brian gave the committee an update regarding the completion of the BSL-3 facility completion. He released the facility for use on May 20, 2016. The Biosafety Office is still working on BSL-3 congruency and competency training. There seems to be a minor problem with the dampers on one of the exhaust fans which causes the facility to go too deeply negative and the alarm to sound transiently/intermittently (area pressure monitors drift beyond their low offset point). The problem has been reported to CVM Hospital Operations.

iMedRIS Update

Jessica Woofter gave the committee a brief update on iMedRIS. The IBC module is completed and the Biosafety Office staff will be testing the module on Thursday, June 23, 2016. A test version will be available for the IBC to use on August 1, 2016.

Teaching Lab Program Update

Brian notified the committee that he is working on implementing the teaching lab program with one professor and will be emailing all department heads to obtain a list of affected courses.

New Business:

Member Appointments

Brian sent a reminder about committee appointment periods and requested that the members notify the office as soon as possible so that new letters can be issued. Mark Smith is stepping off of the committee. The new *ex officio* EHS representative will be Scott Moser.

Methods to Reduce Administrative Burden

Brian notified the committee about a memo initiated by the National Research Council and distributed through the Council on Government Relations (COGR) calling for a university assessment and reduction of administrative burden where feasible. A bulleted checklist summarizing safety/compliance impacts was provided for the IBC and briefly discussed. Near-term goals of the Biosafety Office include eliminating or streamlining redundant lab safety requirements (working with EHS, Radiation Safety and IACUC on this issue) and providing training modules in an electronic format to allow for self-study/completion (in-class training will still be offered at least monthly). The committee was asked to consider other approaches to reducing administrative burden.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 PM. The next meeting has been tentatively scheduled for July 20, 2016 at 3 pm.