

MINUTES OF THE INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

April 17, 2013

3:00 PM, 410 Plant Biotechnology Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chunlei Su, Chair; Jun Lin, Vice-Chair; David Bemis, Tamara Chavez-Lindell, Paul Dalhaimer, Doris D'Souza, Reggie Millwood, Bonnie Ownley, Jae Park

Ex-Officio –Brian Ranger, Jonathan Phipps

MEMBERS ABSENT: Seung Baek, Patti Coan, Al Iannacone, Melissa Kennedy, Dan Kestler, Ling Zhao

OTHERS PRESENT: Lezlee Dice, Jessica Woofter

Opening:

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Chunlei Su at 3:02 PM.

Minutes of March 20, 2013 were reviewed and approved pending the correction of typographical errors.

IBC Applications:

#303-13 (David Brian) Recombinant DNA & Infectious Agents Registration, III-D-3-a, 3-year rewrite

Dr. Brian's registration covers his research is an ongoing study of coronaviruses, specifically mechanisms for production of coronavirus messenger RNAs and their structure. The lab is using 'reverse genetics' technologies on bovine (BCoV) and mouse coronaviruses in order to produce recombinant viruses and study the function of manipulated genes. Additionally, Dr. Brian is attempting to determine the viral protein-RNA interactions required for replication of the viral genome and for subgenetic mRNA synthesis. The containment level was established at BSL-2. The committee voted to approve the registration pending the correction of minor typographical errors and clarification of the spill response.

#398 (Tarek Hewezi) Recombinant DNA Registration, III-E-2-a, New Registration

Dr. Hewezi's registration covers his research on plant-parasitic nematodes that negatively impact plant growth and development. His study will include transgenic Arabidopsis and soybean to study the genetic control of plant responses to biotic and abiotic stresses. Constructs include nematode effector genes as well as modified genes of the host (e.g. overexpression constructs of native Arabidopsis genes). Traditional plant transformation techniques (e.g. Agrobacterium-mediated gene transfer) will be used to generate the transgenic plants. The committee voted to table the registration pending clarification of procedures, source of transgenic plants (developed at UT vs. transferred from outside sources?) and where the plants will be housed. The committee also requested for Dr. Hewezi to inform the UTIA Greenhouse Committee that he intends to use North Greenhouse space for transgenic plants.

#399 (Faith Critzer) Infectious Agents Registration, New Registration

Lezlee Dice gave an overview of Dr. Critzer's registration covering her research on novel antimicrobial coating systems to solve several challenges of improving safety and quality of cantaloupes. She proposes to use plant-based food antimicrobials, essential oils, to develop systems

that can overcome barriers to diffuse to cavities on cantaloupe surfaces and continuously release antimicrobials therein. The registration also covered novel washing techniques to reduce pathogen burden on harvested fruits and vegetables (e.g. lettuce, carrots, and cantaloupe). Traditional plating techniques such as spread plating, pour plating, and spiral plating will be utilized for enumeration of foodborne pathogens. In addition, molecular techniques such as PCR and Reverse-Transcriptase PCR (RT-PCR) may be utilized for quantifying pathogens or detecting genetic markers. The committee voted to table this registration pending a technical description of the novel antimicrobial coating protocol and clarification of procedures to be performed in the greenhouse.

Old Business:

Administrative Report

Brian Ranger provided the committee with the administrative report. Following up on the March 20, 2013 IBC meeting, Dr. Mark Radosevich's registration (#301-13) was corrected to include the expansion of the non-technical summary to include research purposes. Dr. Mariano Labrador's registration (#291-13) was corrected administratively for minor typos and updating of the personnel listed to include the Principal Investigator. Dr. Daniel Roberts' registration (#302-13) was corrected administratively to include use of *Xenopus laevis* for oocyte collection as indicated by IACUC registration #1524. Dr. M.R. Hajimorad's amendment to #207-11 was approved administratively by the Chair to include the addition of P3 homologues from clover yellow vein virus and bean yellow virus (no procedural changes). Dr. Cong Trinh's amendment to #364 was approved administratively by the Chair to include the addition of *Pichia pastoris* and associated vectors (no procedural changes).

David Golden #299-13 Update Pending

Brian Ranger informed the committee that Dr. Golden's registration is still pending and that he would have it submitted by the May 2013 deadline.

NSABB Policy on DURC

Brian Ranger informed the committee he did not receive comments/concerns regarding the changes to the NSABB Policy.

IBC Charter Rewrite

Brian Ranger notified the committee that he would be meeting with the sub-committee in mid-May to review and amend the Charter to include updates in purview/policy.

New Business:

AAALAC Accreditation/Program Description

Brian Ranger notified the committee that the program description was filed and AAALAC will be performing their site inspection on July 29, 2013 to complete the animal care and use assessment.

SharePoint Folders for IBC-approved Research

Brian Ranger notified the committee that the Biosafety SharePoint is functional and available to all Principal Investigators and designated staff members to access their registrations and associated lab inspections.

Proposal for Membership Roles/Responsibilities

Brian Ranger proposed to the committee a Designated Member Review model wherein every registration that is received goes through an Administrative Review by the BSO and technical review

by 1-2 voting members. This new method would hopefully reduce the number of tabled registrations and associated delays. Additionally, Brian proposed that IBC members participate in lab inspections (every other cycle) to add committee (peer) validation to that aspect of the Biosafety Program. The committee commented on potential benefits and pitfalls, and agreed to discuss the proposals at future meetings. No voting action was taken.

IBC Membership/Appointments

Brian Ranger notified the committee that the reappointment of committee membership cycles every 2 years, and asked current committee members to notify the Biosafety Office if they plan to discontinue membership.

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research for Responsible Conduct of Research and Institutional Research Integrity in the Office of Research and Engagement

Brian Ranger notified the committee that the new Assistant Vice Chancellor position is currently in the process of interviewing candidates and the position will be directly over the Institutional Biosafety Committee and Biosafety Office.

The committee will reconvene May 15, 2013.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 PM.