UCF | Environmental Health and Safety
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2026
Zoom

MEETING TIME RECORDS

Meeting start time: 5/13/2026 3:00 PM
Meeting end time: 4:36 PM

VOTING MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Name of Regular/Alternate Member	Status (Member or Alternate)	Present by Teleconference?
Karl McKinstry	Member	Y
Alvina Chu	Member	Y
Melina Kinsey	Member	Y
Kyle Rohde	Member	Y
Stanley Haimes	Member	Y
Hubert Salvail	Member	Absent
Judith Hecker	Member	Y
Lane Coffee	Member	Y
Yulia Gerasimova	Member	Y
Teresa Krisch	Member	Y

QUORUM INFORMATION

Number of SAFETY members on the roster: 10
Number required for quorum: 5

All members present by teleconference received all pertinent material before the meeting and were able to actively and equally participate in all discussions.

ATTENDANCE STATUS AND VOTING KEY

ABSTAIN:	Present for the vote, but not voting "For" or "Against."
ABSENT:	Absent for discussion and voting for reasons other than a conflicting interest.
RECUSED:	Absent from the meeting during discussion and voting because of a conflicting interest.
SUBSTITUTION:	When regular members and their alternate(s) are listed in the ATTENDANCE table above and an alternate member substitutes for the

	regular member this identifies the name of the alternate to indicate which individual is serving as the voting member for this vote. May be deleted if there are no substitutions.

GUEST NAMES
Sophia Vermeulen, Biosafety Specialist

Previous Meeting minutes approved: Yes, April IBC Minutes approved
Motion Karl McKinstry
Second Lane Coffee

Votes:

For:	9
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

REVIEW OF SUBMISSIONS

Initial Protocol

1. Review of SPROTO202500000035

Title:	In vitro Nanoparticle Evaluation - Quadir
Investigator:	Mohi Quadir
Submission ID	SPROTO202500000035
Funding:	• Name: National Science Foundation (NSF), Grant Office ID: Not assigned yet., Funding Source ID: • Name: UCF/ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE, COLLEGE OF (CECS), Grant Office ID: DN15182 (Start-up funding), Funding Source ID:
Documents Reviewed:	• Paper from the PI
Agents:	• Schwann Cells • HELA • Other Cell Lines • HEP-G2

	• MIA-PACA-2 • MDA-MB-468 • Tumor • Panc-1 • Lentivirus • HPNE • HEK293
Agent Containment:	Biological Containment Levels: • HELA: BSL-2 • MDA-MB-468: BSL-2 • Lentivirus: BSL-2 • HPNE: BSL-2 • HEP-G2: BSL-2 • HEK293: BSL-2 • Tumor: BSL-2 • Panc-1: BSL-2 • MIA-PACA-2: BSL-2 • Other Cell Lines: BSL-2 • Schwann Cells: BSL-2
Applicable NIH Guidelines:	• Section III-D-1-a • Section III-D

a. **Description:** In this project, we aim to develop nanoparticle delivery systems. Nanoparticles composed of polymers will be encapsulated with small molecular weight compounds, proteins, or nucleic acid and fluorescent dyes (translational compounds, non-prescription). These nanoparticles will be evaluated for their particle size, surface charge, particle size distribution, and their capabilities to transport the encapsulated payload across cell membranes using physical, chemical, biochemical, and microscopy-based assays.

b. **Determination:** Approval Withheld

Motion: Yulia Gerasimova
Second: Lane Coffee

c. **Required modifications:**

1. Viruses or Prions:
    a. Lentivirus is not marked as recombinant but is described as recombinant in the "Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Work Description." Please correct question 13 in Viruses or Prions.
    b. Supplier or Source of Lentivirus is noted as Charles River Laboratories (question 5). However, in the "Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Work Description" is states in Question 5 that Lentivirual particles will be obtained from Applied Biological Materials and Santa Cruz Biotechnology. Please clarify.
2. Summary of Research

a. Need to describe the animal work that will be done in the Summary. The summary currently only explains the in vitro work.

3. Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Work Description
   a. Question 2. The description states, “cells will be utilized to study the effect of Nanoparticle.” Please provide specifics as to how the cells will be utilized.
4. Tissues, Blood, or Body Fluids
   a. Will the tumor tissue be coming from Charles River or will the mice be coming from Charles River or Jackson Labs then treated with tumor cells? It is unclear how tumor tissue will be obtained.
5. Animals
   a. Question 4. Why was “Penetrating injury from contaminated caging” selected. What is the potential contamination?
6. Waste Management
   a. Question 3. Fill in the pertenent disinfectant information for the statements below:
      “2) With appropriate PPE (lab coat, gloves, and eye protection), pour disinfectant (list disinfectant with appropriate dilution, Example: 1:10 freshly prepared bleach solution) onto the paper towels by working from the outside to the inside and let it sit for 20 minutes (If using bleach, the contact time is 20 minutes, for all others, consult manufacturer's directions on the label).”
      “5) Flood the area with (name the disinfectant and dilution) working from the outside to the center of the spill for 20 minutes (contact time; 20 minutes for bleach)”

d. **Votes:**

For:	9
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

Amendment/CR

2. Review of SAMENDCR202500000015

Title:	Amendment/CR for SPROTO202300000030 - Willenberg
Investigator:	Bradley Willenberg
Submission ID	SAMENDCR202500000015
Funding:	None
Documents Reviewed:	• MigrationPlaceholder • MigrationPlaceholder • 20-20 BARA Willenberg_Lab_Cells_201026.pdf • 20-20 Willenberg Personnel Amendment 051322.pdf • 20-20_BARA_Willenberg_Lab_Cells-Project_Personnel_Amendment_09202022.pdf • 20-20_Willenberg_Personnel_Amendment 1.pdf

a. **Determination:** Modifications Required

Motion: Stan Haimes
Second: Judith Hecker

b. **Required modifications:**

1. Summary of Research:
   a. Clarify when needles are used during processing of bovine blood.
2. Develop and implement an informed consent document which educates lab personnel on the biological hazards (Brucellosis, CJD) and risks of working with Bovine Serum. Copies of signed informed consent documents must be attached to the protocol.

c. **Votes:**

For: 9
Against: 0
Recused: 0
Absent: 1
Abstained: 0

De Novo Review

3. Review of SPROTO202600000015

Title:	Complement and Virus - Parks
Investigator:	Griffith Parks
Submission ID	SPROTO202600000015
Funding:	• Name: National Science Foundation (NSF), Grant Office ID: , Funding Source ID:
Documents Reviewed:	• CR Approval Letter 2026 • Correspondence from Review Committee • 19-08_Parks_210921 Amendment 3.pdf • 19-08_Parks_190412.pdf • GParks Sept 2022 BSOP.pdf • 19-08_Parks_190809_Amended1.pdf • 19-08_Parks_201012_Amended 2.pdf • 19-08_Parks_201012_Personnel Changes.pdf
Agents:	• Vesicular stomatitis virus • Bunyamwera virus (Bunyaviruses) • Coronaviruses • Mumps virus (Paramyxoviruses) • Rhinoviruses (Picornaviruses) • Vaccinia virus • Human Derived Blood and Blood Types • A-549 • HELA-S3 • VERO-B4 • Other Primary Cells • Human foreskin fibroblast • Parainfluenza virus type 5 • Zika Virus
Agent Containment:	Biological Containment Levels: • HELA-S3: BSL-2 • Zika Virus: BSL-2 • Human foreskin fibroblast: BSL-2 • VERO-B4: BSL-2 • A-549: BSL-2 • Other Primary Cells: BSL-2 • Bunyamwera virus (Bunyaviruses): BSL-2 • Parainfluenza virus type 5: BSL-2 • Vesicular stomatitis virus: BSL-2 • Vaccinia virus: BSL-2 • Human Derived Blood and Blood Types: BSL-2+ • Coronaviruses: BSL-2 • Coronaviruses: BSL-2 • Mumps virus (Paramyxoviruses): BSL-2

	• Rhinoviruses (Picornaviruses): BSL-2
Applicable NIH Guidelines:	• Section III-D-7 • Section III-D-3-d • Section III-D-4 • Section III-D • Section III-D-3

a. **Description:** Viral infections of the respiratory tract and skin infections transmitted by mosquitoes are important human health problems, but our understanding of how initial immune responses limit virus growth is incomplete. The goal of this project is to determine how a primary host cell response called Complement (C') is involved during infections by groups of viruses called paramyxoviruses, orthomyxoviruses, bunyaviruses and flaviviruses. We hypothesize that the C' system will limit virus growth and promote the immune response.

b. **Determination:** Modifications Required

Moved: Karl McKinstry
Second: Stan Haimes

c. **Required modifications:**

1. Summary of research.
   a. There is one typo in the first sentence of the first paragraph (replace "characterizer" with "characterize"). Also, abbreviations should be avoided and "Natural Killer" then spelled out instead of only using "NK".
2. Tissues, Blood, or Body Fluids:
   a. BSL-2+ designation for working with Human blood. Please describe the specific procedures and practices that will be followed because of the BSL-2+ designation.
3. Viruses or Prions
   a. Please specify the strain of SARS-COVID2 that you will be working with. Is this strain covered by the current vaccines?
4. Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids
   a. DNA Section must be included to discuss using cancer cells transfected with Luciferase reporter construct.
5. Waste Management
   a. Question 3. Fill in the pertenent disinfectant information for the statements below:
      "2) With appropriate PPE (lab coat, gloves, and eye protection), pour disinfectant (list disinfectant with appropriate dilution, Example: 1:10 freshly prepared bleach solution) onto the paper towels by working from the outside to the inside and let

it sit for 20 minutes (If using bleach, the contact time is 20 minutes, for all others, consult manufacturer's directions on the label)."

"5) Flood the area with (name the disinfectant and dilution) working from the outside to the center of the spill for 20 minutes (contact time; 20 minutes for bleach)"

d. **Votes:**

For:	9
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

Initial Protocol

4. Review of SPROTO202600000021

Title:	BSL2 Attenuated strains of Mycobacterium tuberculosis - Rohde
Investigator:	Kyle Rohde
Submission ID	SPROTO202600000021
Funding:	• Name: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), Grant Office ID: , Funding Source ID:
Documents Reviewed:	• IBC Memo for AMTB strains April 2010.pdf • vilch_ze-et-al-2018-rational-design-of-biosafety-level-2-approved-multidrug-resistant-strains-of-mycobacterium.pdf • mBio-2021-Vilch_ze-e02391-20.full.pdf
Agents:	• Escherichia coli K12 or derivative • Mycobacterium bovis BCG vaccine strain • Mycobacterium smegmatis • Mycobacterium tuberculosis
Agent Containment:	Biological Containment Levels: • Mycobacterium tuberculosis: BSL-2 • Mycobacterium tuberculosis: BSL-2 • Escherichia coli K12 or derivative: BSL-2 • Mycobacterium tuberculosis: BSL-2 • Mycobacterium bovis BCG vaccine strain: BSL-2 • Mycobacterium tuberculosis: BSL-2 • Mycobacterium smegmatis: BSL-1 • Mycobacterium tuberculosis: BSL-2 • Mycobacterium tuberculosis: BSL-2

Applicable NIH Guidelines:	• Section III-D-1-a • Section III-D-2-a • Section III-D

a. **Description:** The overall goals of this project would mirror our ongoing research with the BSL3 pathogen Mycobacterium tuberculosis (Mtb), but using exhaustively validated BSL2 attenuated mutants of Mtb to increase safety and reduce costs and logistical drawbacks of BSL3 research. Strains would be acquired from Dr. Bill Jacobs (Albert Einstein Univ.), one of the foremost experts on Mtb and mycobacteria whose lab generated these strains as new vaccine candidates and safe surrogates for Mtb. Each strain has been engineered to remove multiple essential genes/operons without which Mtb cannot grow unless provided with the essential nutrient they can no longer synthesize (auxotrophic mutants). As a result, they can only be grown in special media supplemented with these essential factors (e.g. pantothenate, leucine, lysine) Because these nutrients are not available in vivo from the host, these strains are unable to replicate and thus are severely attenuated. Their safety (either equal to or better than the BCG vaccine) has been validated in multiple animal models (see attached documentation) and they have been approved for BSL2 use by multiple Tier 1 research institutions. Their main uses in our research, restricted to in vitro studies, would include 1) studying the role of genes of interest using rDNA to make knockout or knockdown mutants, over-express proteins of interest, and using fluorescent or luminescent reporters to study gene regulation, etc.; and 2) evaluation of antibiotic activity and elucidating mechanism of action. Due to the severe attenuation of these strains, we do NOT intend to use them in animal models

b. **Determination:** Modifications Required

Moved: Teresa Krisch
Second: Alvina Chu

c. **Required modifications:**

1. Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Work Description; clarify in layman language that the attenuated strains will not revert to wild type strain.

d. **Votes:**

For: 8
Against: 0
Recused: 1 Dr. Rohde
Absent: 1
Abstained: 0

De Novo Review

5. Review of SPROTO202500000028

Title:	Protection against bone loss - Coathup
Investigator:	Melanie Coathup
Submission ID	SPROTO202500000028
Funding:	• Name: College of Medicine , Grant Office ID: , Funding Source ID: DN12299/FD240 • Name: National Institutes of Health (NIH), Grant Office ID: , Funding Source ID: 2R15AR071102-02 • Name: National Science Foundation (NSF), Grant Office ID: , Funding Source ID: FP00006891 • Name: National Science Foundation (NSF), Grant Office ID: , Funding Source ID: NSF STTR Phase 112208717 • Name: COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, Grant Office ID: , Funding Source ID: My start up
Documents Reviewed:	• Updated info Nov 3.docx • 2023.10.27_IRB Approval_ Synergistic Radiomitigating Therapeutic_PI Coathup.pdf • 19-20 Coathup_190424.pdf • 19-20_Coathup_190913 (2).pdf • 19-20_Coathup_Amendment 1.pdf • 19-20_Coathup_Amendment 2 10-12-21.pdf • MigrationPlaceholder • MigrationPlaceholder
Agents:	• human osteoclast precursors • Escherichia coli K12 or derivative • Pseudomonas aeruginosa • Staphylococcus aureus • Skeletal Tissue • Human Derived Blood and Blood Types • Human Primary Dermal Fibroblasts • Other Cell Lines • MDA-MB-231 • Other Primary Cells • MRSA • HUVEC • Streptococcus mutans • Lactobacillus acidophilus • Lactobacillus plantarum • Lactobacillus fermentum • RAW 264.7 cells • human bone marrow-derived mesenchymal stem cells • Other Bacteria

Agent Containment:	Biological Containment Levels: • Other Bacteria: BSL-2 • HUVEC: BSL-2 • Streptococcus mutans: BSL-2 • MRSA: BSL-2 • Lactobacillus acidophilus: BSL-2 • Human Primary Dermal Fibroblasts: BSL-2 • human bone marrow-derived mesenchymal stem cells: BSL-2 • Other Primary Cells: BSL-2 • Pseudomonas aeruginosa: BSL-2 • Escherichia coli K12 or derivative: BSL-2 • Staphylococcus aureus: BSL-2 • Lactobacillus plantarum: BSL-2 • Human Derived Blood and Blood Types: BSL-2 • Skeletal Tissue: BSL-2 • Lactobacillus fermentum: BSL-2 • RAW 264.7 cells: BSL-2 • human osteoclast precursors: BSL-2 • MDA-MB-231: BSL-2 • Other Cell Lines: BSL-2 • Other Primary Cells: BSL-2
Applicable NIH Guidelines:	None

a. **Description:** We have multiple projects ongoing that are investigating the use of the factors released by probiotic bacteria as agents to eradicate various pathogenic bacteria. The various Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria listed, e.g., P. aeruginosa and S. mutans, are included as the probiotic proteins appear to be more effective in eradicating Gram-positive over Gram-negative species. This is something we are investigating further. The factors released by the probiotic bacteria have in previous studies in the literature, been reported to possess anti-inflammatory properties as well as boost new bone deposition. Therefore, we will also be investigating their effect on host animal and human cells in vitro. Similarly, we are also investigating the antibacterial activity of cerium oxide nanoparticles to the various bacterial species, as well as their ability to regulate inflammation and bone deposition using these same bacteria and host cells.

b. **Determination:** Modifications Required

Motion: Stan Haimes
Second: Judith Hecker

c. **Required modifications:**
1. Summary of Research
    a. The grammar of the summary could still be improved. For example, the last sentence “No animal models of infection (or use of any products from bacteria) are being carried out in animals.” is

repetitive and confusing.

2. Bacteria, Yeasts, Fungi, or Parasites
   a. E. coli and Lactobacillus species are BSL-1 organisms, not BSL-2. This should be corrected.
   b. Salmonella enterica is listed as "other bacteria". The complete species name has been added to the list of organisms on Huron and should be listed as it is, indicating the ATCC number in the "Strain" column. The complete strain name for ATCC 13314 is "Salmonella enterica subsp. arizonae".

3. Exposure Assessment and Protective Equipment.
   a. The risks of working with Salmonella enterica should be described. While the strain to be used (i.e., Salmonella arizonae) is mostly associated with cold-blooded animals and an uncommon cause of human infections, cases of illness among reptile owners are still reported, especially in immunocompromised individuals. This should be mentioned in the Exposure section.
   b. The risk of working with MRSA should be described.

4. Waste Management
   a. Question 3. Fill in the pertenent disinfectant information for the statements below:
      "2) With appropriate PPE (lab coat, gloves, and eye protection), pour disinfectant (list disinfectant with appropriate dilution, Example: 1:10 freshly prepared bleach solution) onto the paper towels by working from the outside to the inside and let it sit for 20 minutes (If using bleach, the contact time is 20 minutes, for all others, consult manufacturer's directions on the label)."
      "5) Flood the area with (name the disinfectant and dilution) working from the outside to the center of the spill for 20 minutes (contact time; 20 minutes for bleach)"

d. **Votes:**

For:	9
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

De Novo Review

6. Review of SPROTO202600000006

Title:	Genetics and Biochemistry of C. difficile - Self
Investigator:	William Self
Submission ID	SPROTO202600000006
Funding:	• Name: Anthony Gagliardi Memorial Foundation, Grant Office ID: , Funding Source ID:
Documents Reviewed:	• 20-16_Self_200831.pdf • MigrationPlaceholder • MigrationPlaceholder • Safety External Team members Form Deepa WS 061125.docx
Agents:	• Digestive Tissue • Clostridioides difficile • Paeniclostridium sordellii
Agent Containment:	Biological Containment Levels: • Paeniclostridium sordellii: BSL-2 • Clostridioides difficile: BSL-2 • Digestive Tissue: BSL-2
Applicable NIH Guidelines:	• Section III-D-1-a • Section III-D

a. **Description:** My lab studies the metabolic pathways and enzymes that C. difficile uses to obtain ATP (Stickland Reactions) as well as catabolize purines and pyrimidines. These pathways utilize selenium in the active site of several enzymes such as Glycine Reductase, D-proline Reductase and Purine Hydroxylase. We use a Coy anaerobic chamber to do most of this work and we also carry out studies of bacterial physiology that use genetic manipulation (plasmids, RT-PCR, PCR, Gibson assembly, mutagenesis) and DNA and RNA isolation of this organism. I have been working with this pathogen at UCF since I arrived in 2003, but the genetic model systems have recently expanded to include Crispr Cas9 vectors and enable a much more robust genetic model system that can be established here at UCF.

b. As part of a recent finding (Landsberg et al, 2022, Frontiers in Marine Science), we are asking to be able to culture Paeniclostridium sordellii in my laboratory. This organism is closely related to Clostridioides difficile (phylogeny) and produces similar toxins. We initially want to develop a differential and selective medium to culture this organism from tissue samples derived by marine mammals (manatees). However in order to test our selective/differential medium formulations we need to have a type strain from ATCC and potentially an isolate from a manatee (Landsberg et al, 2022).

c. **Determination:** Modifications Required

Moved: Judith Hecker
Second: Lane Coffee

d. **Required modifications:**

1. Summary of Research
   a. Describe the type and size of samples being collected from Manatee. Are they from healthy animals?
   b. Describe the role of the Kismet team member when manipulating samples for this protocol. What will they be doing and handling?

2. Waste Management
   a. Question 3. Fill in the pertinent disinfectant information for the statements below:

"2) With appropriate PPE (lab coat, gloves, and eye protection), pour disinfectant (list disinfectant with appropriate dilution, Example: 1:10 freshly prepared bleach solution) onto the paper towels by working from the outside to the inside and let it sit for 20 minutes (If using bleach, the contact time is 20 minutes, for all others, consult manufacturer's directions on the label)."

"5) Flood the area with (name the disinfectant and dilution) working from the outside to the center of the spill for 20 minutes (contact time; 20 minutes for bleach)"

3. Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Work Description
   a. Question 2. Clarify this statement, "We are requesting a modification to allow complementation of mutant alleles." Who and what are you requesting?

e. **Votes:**

For:	9
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

REVIEW OF OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

Injuries and Illness

1. Needlestick injury involving Dr. Needa Brown's BSL-1 laboratory work with mice was discussed.
2. Needlestick injury involving Dr. Kyle Rohde's BSL-2 laboratory work with mice was discussed.