UCF | Environmental Health and Safety
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2026
Zoom

MEETING TIME RECORDS

Meeting start time: 6/10/2026 3:00 PM
Meeting end time: 4:21 PM

VOTING MEMBER ATTENDANCE

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

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, May 2026 meeting minutes approved.
Motion: Yulia Gerasimova
Second: Karl McKinstry

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	2
Abstained:	0

REVIEW OF SUBMISSIONS

Initial Protocol

1. Review of SPROTO202600000020

Title:	Alternative gene splicing in TILs - Ram
Investigator:	Daniel Ram
Submission ID	SPROTO202600000020
Funding:	• Name: National Institutes of Health (NIH), Grant Office ID: GR108022, Funding Source ID: 3K01OD031899-03S1
Agent Characteristics:	Biological Agent Sources: • NIH • OHSU (and collaborators to be determined) • Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center • Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Agent Containment:	Biological Containment Levels: • Nervous Tissue: BSL-2 • Nervous Tissue: BSL-2 • Excretory Tissue: BSL-2

	• Reproductive Tissue: BSL-2
Applicable NIH Guidelines:	None

a. **Description:** We will use already banked de-identified discarded human prostate and kidney tissues to assess differences between immune cells that are able to infiltrate tumor tissue and those immune cells that are proximal to tumor tissue. We will also use already banked and de-identified human brain tissues and rhesus macaque brain tissues to determine whether proximity of various immune cells to aberrant structures (eg. amyloid plaques, nurofibrillary tangles etc.) results in modulation of alternative gene splicing in these cells, that is associated with immune dysfunction.

b. **Determination:** Approved

Motion: Karl McKinstry
Second: Hubert Salvail

c. **Votes:**

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	2
Abstained:	0

De Novo Review

2. Review of SPROTO202600000019

Title:	Nitrogen metalloenzyme mechanisms - Caranto
Investigator:	Jonathan Caranto
Submission ID	SPROTO202600000019
Funding:	• Name: Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP), Grant Office ID: AWD00006037, Funding Source ID: WP24-4206 • Name: National Institutes of Health (NIH), Grant Office ID: AWD00005052, Funding Source ID: R35GM147515 • Name: US Army Corps of Engineers, Grant Office ID: AWD00006037, Funding Source ID: W912HQ24P0009
Agents:	• Escherichia coli K12 or derivative • Streptomyces noursei • Streptomyces albulus • Streptomyces yunnanesis • Streptomyces vitaminophilus
Agent Containment:	Biological Containment Levels: • Streptomyces vitaminophilus: BSL-1 • Streptomyces noursei: BSL-1

	• Escherichia coli K12 or derivative: BSL-1 • Streptomyces albulus: BSL-1 • Escherichia coli K12 or derivative: BSL-1 • Streptomyces yunnanesis: BSL-1 • Escherichia coli K12 or derivative: BSL-1
Applicable NIH Guidelines:	• None

a. **Description:** Bacterial natural products are complex molecules with a wide range of bioactivities including antibiotic activities. Some of these molecules require nitrogen functionalities such as nitro or nitramine groups for their bioactivities. Alternatively, some enzymes degrade these functional groups to inactivate them or repurpose them as an assimilable nitrogen source. To discover how these groups are incorporated or degraded, we will study the mechanisms of enzymes that produce natural products. The biosynthetic pathways we are interested in are found in several Streptomyces species, which are avid producers of natural products. We are particularly interested in nitration biochemistries required to make 4-nitrotryptophan or 3-nitrotyrosine (model organisms: Streptomyces scabei and Streptomyces atratus), N-nitroglycine (model organism: Streptomyces noursei), and nitropyrrolomycin (model organism: Streptomyces vitaminophilus). Studies of these biosynthetic processes will largely monitor the activities of recombinant enzymes produced in E. coli. These studies will be supplemented with stable isotope labeling experiments of cultures of BSL1 microorganisms that produce these molecules.

b. **Determination:** Modifications Required

Motion: Yulia Gerasimova
Second: Judy Hecker

c. **Required modifications:**

1. Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Work Description:
   a) Question 7 and within the Summary of Research (Basic Information, Question3) it implies that the enzymes will be created from several Streptomyces species. However, when listing the enzymes/proteins in Question 8, there are proteins from other species included such as Mycobacterium kansasii A67F HLP. Need more context on why you included so many produced proteins from other pathogen species when only streptomyces is mentioned in the summary and in Question 7.
   b) At the end of Question 8, please describe the function of the various proteins. Are they toxin producing?
2. 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:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	2
Abstained:	0

Amendment/CR

3. Review of SAMENDCR202600000011

Title:	Amendment/CR for SPROTO202300000004 - Altomare
Investigator:	Deborah Altomare
Submission ID	SAMENDCR202600000011
Funding:	None
Applicable NIH Guidelines:	None

a. **Determination:** Modifications Required

Motion: Teri Krisch
Second: Karl McKinstry

b. **Required modifications:**

1. 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)"

c. **Votes:**

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	2
Abstained:	0

De Novo Review

4. Review of SPROTO202600000016

Title:	Cell-Biomaterials Interaction - Razavi
Investigator:	Mehdi Razavi
Submission ID	SPROTO202600000016
Funding:	• Name: National Science Foundation (NSF), Grant Office ID: , Funding Source ID:
Agents:	• human osteoclast precursors • RAW 264.7 cells • human bone marrow-derived mesenchymal stem cells • human umbilical vein endothelial cells
Agent Containment:	Biological Containment Levels: • human umbilical vein endothelial cells: BSL-2 • human osteoclast precursors: BSL-2 • RAW 264.7 cells: BSL-2 • human bone marrow-derived mesenchymal stem cells: BSL-2
Applicable NIH Guidelines:	None

a. **Description:** Overall Goal: To culture cells with our biomaterials and biocompatible nanoparticles (nanobubbles, bioceramic nanoparticles, biopolymeric nanoparticles, metallic nanoparticles, lipid nanoparticles) to measure cellular viability and function and identify key genes and signalling pathways involved in osteogenesis, angiogenesis, and osteoclastogenesis. To seed cells in bone tissue engineering scaffolds and implant them into the bone defects of rats

b. **Determination:** Approval Withheld

Motion: Alvina Chu
Second: Karl McKinstry

c. **Required modifications:**

1. Summary or Research –
   a) Summary needs more details on how the rats will be used in the protocol and use of cells in the rats

2. Exposure Assessment and Protective Equipment –
   a) Describe the potential risk of BBP's from cell lines

3. Primary Cells or Cell Lines -
   a) Location for usage of cell lines listed as 258 and 262, but cells will also be used in rats. Needs to clarify what cell lines will be used in rats and list the vivarium location.
4. Waste Management –
   a) Only mentions 70% ethanol for disinfection of cells. 10% Bleach is required for BBP potential exposure disinfection.
   b) 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)"

d. **Votes:**

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	2
Abstained:	0

Amendment/CR

5. Review of SAMENDCR202600000009

Title:	Amendment/CR for SPROTO202400000002 - Westmoreland
Investigator:	Tamarah Westmoreland
Submission ID	SAMENDCR202600000009
Funding:	None

a. **Determination:** Modifications Required

Motion: Teri Krisch
Second: Yulia Gerasimova

b. **Required modifications:**

1. 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)"

c. **Votes:**

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	2
Abstained:	0

De Novo Review

6. Review of SPROTO202600000022

Title:	Alternative gene splicing, infection and disease - Ram
Investigator:	Daniel Ram
Submission ID	SPROTO202600000022
Funding:	• Name: National Institutes of Health (NIH), Grant Office ID: , Funding Source ID: 1R15AI189259 • Name: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), Grant Office ID: GR111408 , Funding Source ID: 1R03AI198047-01
Agents:	• Cytomegalovirus (Herpesvirus) • Hepatitis B • Hepatitis C • Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) types 2 (Retroviruses) • Human T cell lymphotropic virus (HTLV) types 1 (Retroviruses) • Influenza virus type A (Orthomyxoviruses) • Mycobacterium tuberculosis • C4-2 • Simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV) (Retroviruses) • Vaccinia virus • Saliva • Immune Tissue • Reproductive Tissue • Respiratory Tissue • Human Derived Blood and Blood Types • Non Human Derived Blood and Blood Types • HELA • Other Cell Lines • Human Immunodeficiency virus (HIV) type 1 • SUP-T1 • LNCAP • JURKAT • RAJI • VCaP • ACH-2 • NK-92 • HPeEC • CEM-TART • 293T • CAKI-1 • HLtat • 786-O

	• ioGlutamatergic Neurons • ioMicroglia • HuT • ioGABAergic Neurons • LL58 • OS-P2 • HMC-3 • NK-92 MI • SVGA • U937 • K562 • J1.1 • MT4 • Urine • 293TT • CHO • H9
Agent Containment:	Biological Containment Levels: • Mycobacterium tuberculosis: BSL-2+ • Other Cell Lines: BSL-2 • 293T: BSL-2 • NK-92: BSL-2 • VCaP: BSL-2 • K562: BSL-2 • CEM-TART: BSL-2 • HPeEC: BSL-2 • CEM-TART: BSL-2 • MT4: BSL-2 • CAKI-1: BSL-2 • HLtat: BSL-2 • SUP-T1: BSL-2 • 786-O: BSL-2 • HuT: BSL-2 • ioGlutamatergic Neurons: BSL-2 • 293TT: BSL-2 • HMC-3: BSL-2 • ioMicroglia: BSL-2 • H9: BSL-2 • CHO: BSL-2 • LL58: BSL-2 • JURKAT: BSL-2 • ioGABAergic Neurons: BSL-2 • NK-92 MI: BSL-2 • OS-P2: BSL-2 • RAJI: BSL-2 • U937: BSL-2

	• ACH-2: BSL-2 • LNCAP: BSL-2 • J1.1: BSL-2 • SVGA: BSL-2 • C4-2: BSL-2 • HELA: BSL-2 • Simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV) (Retroviruses): BSL-2 • Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) types 2 (Retroviruses): BSL-2 • Cytomegalovirus (Herpesvirus): BSL-1 • Influenza virus type A (Orthomyxoviruses): BSL-2 • Vaccinia virus: BSL-2 • Human Immunodeficiency virus (HIV) type 1: BSL-2 • Human T cell lymphotropic virus (HTLV) types 1 (Retroviruses): BSL-2 • Hepatitis B : BSL-2 • Hepatitis C : BSL-2 • Immune Tissue: BSL-2 • Saliva: BSL-2 • Urine: BSL-2 • Non Human Derived Blood and Blood Types: BSL-2 • Respiratory Tissue: BSL-2 • Reproductive Tissue: BSL-2 • Human Derived Blood and Blood Types: BSL-2
Applicable NIH Guidelines:	• Section III-D-3-a

a. **Description:** The proposed work will examine how viral infection (SIV, HIV, CMV, Influenza, HTLV, HCV, HBV), bacterial infection (TB) and disease states (such as cancer, Alzheimer's Disease and others) modulate alternative gene splicing in immune cells and relevant tissues over time. We will use samples from rhesus macaques (infected with SIV, CMV, TB), mice (infected with mouse-adapted influenza strains), human blood and discarded human tissues (including prostate and kidney tissues). *All material from nonhuman primate work will be treated as if it is infectious and handled using BSL-2 precautions*

b. **Determination:** Modifications Required

Motion: Alvina Chu
Second: Yulia Gerasimova

c. **Required modifications:**

1. Exposure Assessment and Protective Equipment
    a. Clarify HIV exposure plan should have an expedited response in first 24 hours post exposure.
    b. Hep B Vaccination series, are those vaccinated completing entire

3 dose series?

c. Hep B vaccination titers should be checked post 3 dose series.

2. Recommend the development of an informed consent document which educates lab personnel on the biological hazards and risk of working with Bloodborne pathogens (Hep B, Hep C, HIV), SIV, Herpesvirus, Vaccinia virus, and HTLV.

3. Undergraduate which are not being paid by UCF, need to complete volunteer paperwork. As a volunteer they will be covered by Workman's Comp in the event of an exposure.

d. **Votes:**

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	2
Abstained:	0

Amendment

7. Review of SAMEND202600000004

Title:	Amendment for SPROTO202200000046 - Alexander
Investigator:	Kenneth Alexander
Submission ID	SAMEND202600000004
Funding:	None

a. **Determination:** Modifications Required

Motion: Karl McKinstry
Second: Melina Kinsey

b. **Required modifications:**

1. 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)"

c. **Votes:**

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	2
Abstained:	0

REVIEW OF OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

Melina Kinsey reported that there were no Incidents/Near Misses.

Kyle Rohde addressed the Committee regarding changes in the NIH's review and approval process for "dangerous gain-of-function" research.